

Whimble Primary School - Curriculum Newsletter



Class: Ash

Year: 1/2

Term: Spring 2026

Dear Parents

English

- Year 1 will revise and consolidate all phonemes from Phase 2, 3 and 4 and common exception words. They will continue to learn the Phase 5 phonemes which covers the alternative spellings for each phoneme.
- Year 2 will continue to spell common exception (tricky) words and to learn and apply spelling rules and patterns.
- Reinforcement of simple sentences, focusing on starting with capital letters and ending in full stops.
- Fiction: Traditional stories associated with Chinese New Year. Explore two linked stories written by Emily Gravett 'Tidy' and 'Too Much Stuff!' set in a woodland with an eco message.
- Non-fiction: Chinese New Year by Grace Jones. Write an information text about a festival. Queen Elizabeth I report.
- Poetry: ZimZam Zoom

What's the one thing we can do at home to support?

- Read with your child every day for 5-10 minutes. There is extensive evidence to show that reading with, and listening to children read has a positive impact on their learning in all subjects. Please encourage your child to read regularly.
- Help your child to learn their weekly spellings – this can be written and verbal
- Reread group reading books and then ask questions about what they have read. Encourage good expression.

Maths

- Year 1 will continue to work with numbers within ten, learning a number of strategies to know addition and subtraction facts automatically; strategies will include one more and one less, two more and two less, number ten fact families, five and a bit, knowing about zero, doubles and near doubles. They will also be exploring capacity and telling the time to the hour and half hour on analogue and digital clocks.
- Year 2 will continue to build upon addition and subtraction numbers-facts knowledge and strategies, including finding the difference and within the context of money. They will increase their understanding of place value to 100, telling the time and measures (weighing and capacity).

What's the one thing we can do at home to support?

- Counting forwards and backwards in ones from different numbers to 100.
- Count everything and anything! Stairs, steps, money, food, etc. Play games, e.g. dominoes, cards, board games
- Year 2 – practice number bond facts to 10 and their corresponding subtraction fact, e.g. $6+3=9$; $9-3=6$ and doubles and halves to double 10
- Year 2 – telling the time on analogue clocks (not digital) – o'clock, half-past, quarter to and quarter past.

Science

- Everyday Materials: Making the distinction between objects and materials. Testing the suitability of materials according to their properties focusing on flexible, rigid, absorbent and waterproof.
- Plants: Planting and observing seeds and bulbs. Identifying and classifying local trees as deciduous or evergreen. Finding out how plants stay healthy in hot, dry or cold places.

What's the one thing we can do at home to support?

- Identify and name a variety of common materials at home or out and about
- Look at garden and local plants and name a range of common plants

Computing – Year 1

- Creating Media - digital painting – use shape and line tools to paint a variety of paintings.
- Moving a Robot – to plan and input commands to program a simple toy (BeeBot).

Computing – Year 2

- Digital Photography – using a digital device to take photographs and exploring how position, background, orientation and lighting can alter the photograph.
- Robot Algorithms – to follow, compare and predict the outcomes of a series of commands, including testing and debugging algorithms.

Design and Technology ● Stable Structures - design and make a bridge for the three Billy Goats Gruff. Explore the features of stable structures. Design and plan a stable structure. Explore a range of materials and make decisions based on the end product. Follow a design plan and make a product. Evaluate products.	Art and Design ● Drawing: Develop tone by using hatching, scribbling, stippling and blending to create dark and light lines. ● Printing: Explore printing techniques. Use equipment and media correctly to produce a clean printed image. Create prints inspired by the work of Orla Kiely.
History ● Famous Queens: Compare the lives of Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II.	
Music ● Inventing a Musical Story ● Recognising Different Sounds	
Religious Education ● Judaism – How do stories from Jewish text, including the Torah, influence how Jews celebrate festivals? ● Easter - Why was Jesus welcomed like a celebrity? (Palm Sunday)	
Physical Education ● Real PE: Cognitive – understand the tactics of attacking and defending, understand and follow simple rules. Creative – make up rules and versions of activities, select and link movements together to fit a theme. ● Get Set 4 PE: Dance – create patterns, shapes and linking movements, create a short dance phrase with a change in speed. Net and Wall Games - defend space on court, develop returning a ball with hands, develop racket skills and use them to return a ball and play against an opponent.	
Personal Development ● Jigsaw Unit - Dreams and Goals: setting and achieving realistic personal goals through perseverance. ● Jigsaw Unit - Healthy Me: ways to keep our bodies healthy. ● Using the schools 6Rs to inform personal development with a focus on Reflection and Resilience this term. Skills Builder ● Spring term 1: Planning and Listening ● Spring term 2: Adapting and Speaking What's the one thing we can do at home to support? ● Help them set small goals for school, hobbies, or home tasks. ● Encourage them to talk about what they love and be positive when something doesn't go to plan. ● Praising efforts as well as successes.	

Home Learning

- **Daily** reading (guided reading and individual books as well as books from personal collections).
- Learning weekly spellings.
- Any other individual tasks set.
- Year 2 Guided Reading homework

PE days – Tuesday and Thursday – Children need to have a PE kit in school at all times. Please also ensure children have appropriate footwear e.g. trainers in school (or wear them to school on those days).

Spelling day – Friday (test and new words)

Guided Reading – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (books come home on Wednesday and must be returned on Monday)

Thank you for your support.

Miss Norton and Miss Sharratt

