

Whimble Primary School - Curriculum Newsletter

Class: Willow Year: 5/6 Term: Spring 2026



Dear parents and pupils,

Welcome to the spring term! Please find details outlining our learning for the first term of 2026; your support is greatly appreciated as always.

English

- Securing grammar that is expected at the top end of Key Stage Two, and having a clear understanding of 'subject', 'verb' and 'object'.
- Using the book *Flotsam* to develop understanding of paragraphing and plotlines.
- Continuing our class novels across the term. We are currently reading Frank Cottrell-Boyce's hilarious book *Cosmic*. Other great titles are available in the library!

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

- Read with your child every day for 10 minutes. There is extensive evidence to show that reading to, and listening to children read has significant impacts on their learning across the curriculum.

Maths

- Thinking deeply, explaining clearly, learning together.
- Revising the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages.
- Calculating with fractions.
- Solving multi-step problems and explaining our reasoning effectively.
- Working on our arithmetic skills to apply number facts fluently.

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

- Use your child's login details to Doodle Maths and ask them to complete their 'x a day' at least 4 times per week. The app is free of charge and children can use their school subscription.

Science

- Evolution and Inheritance: how are animals adapted to their environment?
- Living things and their habitats: how are animals grouped based on their observable characteristics?

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

- Look at the suggested homework activities and try to support your child with these across the term. There are so many great documentaries and books out there to learn about different and interesting animals.

Enquiry Question (spring 1) – Geography focus – Why is Fair Trade fair?

Enquiry Question (spring 2) – History focus – How has the role of women changed over time?

Art and Design

- Collage
- Printing

Languages (French)

- All about ourselves

Religious Education

- Judaism – how do Jews practice their faith?
- Christianity - Easter

Computing

- Building our own websites
- Data and information – how can we use spreadsheets effectively?

Music

- Enjoying musical styles
- Learning how musical styles connect us

Physical Education

Children need to have PE kit in school every day. We will aim to do PE on Wednesdays and Fridays

- Gymnastics
- Tag Rugby
- Real PE: cognitive and creative modules

Personal Development

- Preparing ourselves for transition to secondary schools
- The Civic Award
- Buddy system with children in Elm Class to support reading and positive play
- Jigsaw PSHE: Dreams and Goals and Healthy Me

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?

- Support them to understand how relationships change over time, particularly when we learn that friends may be attending different secondary schools.
- Help your child to understand that 'getting better at something' comes through hard work, resilience and practice.

While it is important to continue your child's learning journey at home, I would like all extra work to be enrichment of their learning in the classroom. So alongside daily reading and regular Doodle Maths, your child will be given:

- Spellings: children will be given a set of spellings **every week**. These will be set and tested on a Wednesday.
- Homework activities: the attached homework grid outlines some ideas that your child could attempt. Ideally, they will bring one piece of work in per week to be shared on display.

All homework will be set via Google Classroom, but provision can be made for anyone who is unable to access this at home. If you have any further questions regarding any of this information, or have any queries regarding your child's time in Willow Class in general, please do not hesitate to ask.

Many thanks,

Mr M Brown

A selection of dates for your diary

Monday 12th January A student teacher will be working in Willow Class alongside Mr Brown.

Week of the 23rd March School reports come home this week.

Week of 11th May SATs week for all Year Six children.

Wednesday 17th –
Friday 19th June Year 5/6 residential to Bristol and Bath.

