



Great Whelnetham CE Primary School
Stanningfield Road, Great Whelnetham, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 0UA
(01284) 386203
Executive Head Teacher – Mrs. Claire Flatman
Head of School – Mr. Bobby Varela
office@greatwhelnetham.co.uk
Website: www.greatwhelnetham.suffolk.sch.uk

Owls Newsletter - Autumn Term 1, 2022

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had a wonderful summer break and that your child is ready for some fun and exciting learning this term. We are all enthusiastic about the term ahead and all the amazing events that will be taking place throughout the year.

The way we teach some curriculum subjects is changing slightly this year – we will teach History, Geography, Art and Design, Design and Technology and Music for extended afternoon sessions over a course of three weeks which will support our children in retaining key elements of each subjects' knowledge base and really immerse them in their learning of each separate discipline. This half term we will teach blocks of **History**, learning about World War Two – focussing on the Blitz. Our second block will be **Design and Technology**, where we will be learning about different dietary requirements; designing, making and evaluating our own savory pastry slices.

In **Maths** we will be looking at place value, rounding numbers, comparing and ordering numbers, negative number, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division. We have also introduced daily 'maths meetings' to practise our mental calculations and reasoning. Pupils will have the opportunity to explore maths further using activities on Purple Mash, Sumdog and topmarks.

In **English** we will write a powerful setting description based in World War Two before applying our knowledge of the subject to create a newspaper report. Our Class novel is 'Letters from the lighthouse' which we are already finding a real page turner!

Our **Guided Reading** will explore various fiction and non-fiction texts and we will be investigating how to answer different question types including retrieval, inference and vocabulary in context. A reminder that children are expected to read at home daily, for around 20 minutes, **recording this in their Planners**, and parents should please **sign once a week** to confirm this. I would really appreciate your support with reinforcing this most beneficial habit - which helps with so many aspects of our learning. Happy reading.

Our **P.E.** lessons will be on Tuesday this half term, with extra lunchtime PE on Wednesday and Friday, so please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school on these days. There will be English and Maths **Home Learning** each week. Maths, English and Weekly spellings will be given out on a Friday and due in on a Friday. Homework may have elements of online activities depending on our topic.

We are also extremely excited to start our first Science topic – electricity! Mr Varela is looking forward to running a **STEM club** later in the school year to promote enquiry and higher order thinking. If there are any questions about this or any other query relating to your child's learning, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Mr Varela

Mrs Reavis

Miss Robson

Great Whelnetham Church of England Primary School is part of the All Saints Schools Trust.

A charitable company limited by guarantee.

Registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 11216388