

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@greatwhelnethamprimary.org.uk Website: www.greatwhelnetham.suffolk.sch.uk

Owls Newsletter - Autumn Term 2, 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new half term in Owls with plenty of fun and exciting activities planned.

This half term the 3 week blocks that we will teach are on **Geography** and **Music**. In **Geography** our topic is focussed on The UK. During this topic, pupils will compare and contrast the four nations (3 of which make up Great Britain). Pupils will use atlases to locate the capital cities of each nation and begin to compare population, landscape etc (human features). Moving forward, we will compare physical features of each nation including, national parks, hills, mountains, coastlines and more.

In **Music** We will be studying 'Lean On Me (Bill Withers)'. We will look closely at soul/gospel-based genre. The aim of this topic is to learn, listen and appraise a range of soul and gospel-based songs. These will include 'He Still Loves Me' by Walter Williams and Beyoncé, 'Shackles' by Mary Mary, 'Amazing Grace' by Elvis Presley and many more. We will discuss the key features of this genre and compare with hip hop and rock.

In **Maths** pupils will be continuing with their number work, focusing on division and multiplication. Next, we will be exploring area and perimeter. We have been enjoying our daily maths meetings also incorporating our Autumn 2 KIRFS (more on this on the next page) and are looking forward to improving our key skills further.

In **English** we will be focussing on character descriptions. We will analyse how a character from the book 'Wonder' is portrayed and developed before creating our own example using powerful character traits.

Our **Guided Reading** will continue to explore a range of text types – building on our previous knowledge. We will continue to identify question types to help improve our comprehension answers and even look to create our own questions and becoming the teacher to test our working partners! We are close to finishing our class novel and already excited about choosing our next adventure!

Our **P.E.** lessons will be on Wednesday (gymnastics) 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. We are delighted to be working with our specialist gymnastics coach this half term!

Home Learning will continue to be given in the same format on Wednesdays, although we will be setting some more activities online now we have been using these platforms in class (Purple Mash, and Sumdog). If you have any queries, please do contact us.

Kind regards,

Mr Varela

Mrs Reavis



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KIRFs at Great Whelnetham Primary School

This half term we are very excited to be launching a new initiative to help develop children's fluency in mathematics and to complement their learning in school.

We would greatly appreciate your support in helping your child to learn Key Instant Recall Facts each half term. We expect children to practise their KIRFs at least 3 times a week. You will find the KIRFs document on the Maths page of the school website, where you can then scroll down to find the page which applies for your child's year group and for this half term.

There is a new KIRFs page for each half term throughout the year.

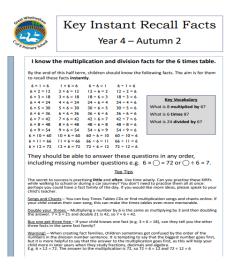
We have created these lists of KIRFs to align with the National Curriculum. They are designed to be challenging and it is intended that children will be taught the necessary maths in lessons beforehand. On each page, you will find details of the KIRFs, some important vocabulary and some Top Tips to help you with ideas of how to support your child in learning them off by heart.

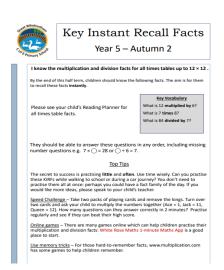
Please have a look on the website and get involved with helping our children becoming maths masters! Some examples of pages are shown below.

Thanks for your support.

Sam Sharp

Maths Coordinator





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