



Great Whelnetham CE Primary School
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Swans Newsletter – Spring Term 1, 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new half term in Swans and I hope you all enjoyed some valuable time with your friends and families over the festive period.

This half term the 3-week blocks that I will teach to Year 6 are on **History** and **Art**. In **History** we are looking at the Stone Age to Iron Age. This is a broad period of history stretching back 10,000 years and we will follow the developments made, from early European hunter-gatherers, to the sophisticated settlements and buildings of Skara Brae and Stonehenge. We will look at how first farming, then bronze and iron changed society and the way people lived.

In **Art** we will be focussing on the famous paintings of L.S. Lowry. The children will learn about his distinctive style and how his work is firmly rooted in the industrial, urban landscape where he grew up. Then we will try to capture his style of painting human figures in a crowd, from a photograph of the class. We will look at perspective and using a vanishing point to help us recreate urban scenes. We'll even listen to the song about him, for those old enough to remember that!

In **Maths** we will be looking at some challenging areas including **ratio, algebra and decimals**, continuing with our very successful and popular White Rose workbooks. Support from home would be greatly appreciated with times tables, using the White Rose App, Hit the Button or the BBC Supermovers songs.

We will link our **English** writing to the learning in **Science** this half term, where we will be looking at Evolution and Inheritance and the voyage Charles Darwin took on the HMS Beagle. We will practice styles of writing with formal and informal letters, and will also write a recount of his exciting discoveries on the Galapagos Islands.

Our **Guided Reading** will explore various fiction and non-fiction texts and we will be reading the rest of our book 'Wonder' by RJ Palacio. 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.

Early Birds Booster sessions will take place on Tuesday and Friday mornings from 8.25am, starting this week, and continue for the rest of the term.

Thanks for your continued support with your child's learning.

Kind regards,

Mr Sharp

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