



Great Whelnetham CE Primary School
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Owls Newsletter – Spring term 2, 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the start of this exciting term. We hope you all had a wonderful break and are enjoying the sunlight hours stretching out again – I know we are!

This half term the 3 week blocks that we will teach are on **Geography** and **Music**. In **Geography**, children will be surveying the local area. The focus of the topic will be to compare two local areas to the children (Great Whelnetham and Bury St Edmunds). They will start by identifying local features on a 4-figure grid reference map, moving onto classifying buildings and their uses from the two areas studied. Once data is collected, we will present data and record our findings using recognised symbols to mark out areas of interest on their own maps.

In **Music**, pupils will learn, listen to 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. We will then move onto musical activities that will include vocal games, learning to sing the song, accompanying instruments and improvising with the song.

In **Maths** pupils will be working to improve their understanding of fractions; comparing unit and non-unit, creating equivalences, exploring mixed numbers, converting improper fractions and finding fractions of shapes and numbers.

In **English** we will be working to write persuasively. After investigating this genre and creating our own tool kit, we will use drama to enhance our understanding of a book before writing persuasively about saving the polar bears. We will use the book 'The Last Bear' as a stimulus.

In **Science**, we will be continuing our work on Forces; using a range of fair test, pattern seeking and observational experiments to improve our understanding. We will be investigating the relationship between gravity, air resistance, water resistance, friction and propulsion.

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, Spelling Shed and Sumdog). If you have any queries, please do contact us. Thank you to those pupils who are also reading regularly at home; this is having a massive impact on your progress and you are flying up our Reading Challenge display! 😊

Forest School will be happening on Wednesday afternoons for this half term and we will also have our weekly clarinet tuition on Thursdays. Please ensure pupils have everything they need on these days.

Thank you all for your continued support – If you have any questions, please do get in touch.

Kind regards,

Mr Varela
Mrs Reavis
Mrs Robson.

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