

<p><b>Personal, social and emotional development</b></p> <p>This aspect of learning is integrated into all aspects of the day. This term the children will be settling into their new class and will be learning the class routines. They will have the opportunity to develop positive relationships with their classmates and learn the importance of sharing and friendship. Our circle time sessions will provide the children with the opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings and show respect for each other.</p> <p>Through our Africa topic, children will learn about a different culture and way of life, helping them to develop tolerance and acceptance of people from other faiths and communities.</p> <p>In our focused religious education sessions the children will be exploring the question 'Who are special people?' in the first half term and 'Why are holy books special and what does the Bible tell us about the birth of Jesus?'. This will include learning about the important Christian celebrations of Harvest and Christmas.</p>	<p><b>Mathematics</b></p> <p>The children will be learning and joining in with action rhymes and number songs to help them to learn to count up and back in ones. They will be learning to count objects and pictures accurately, as well as matching small amounts to the correct numeral. Through number stories and problem solving the children will begin to calculate by finding totals, using equipment. For example '3 elephants and 2 zebras are at the lake, how many animals are there altogether?'</p> <p>Our measurement focus this term is length and height. The children will be learning to use and understand comparative language such as longer, wider, taller and shorter. This will include ordering small world animals models or pictures in different ways, such as shortest to tallest or thinnest to widest. They will be identifying and naming flat 2D shapes and using these shapes to make models, pictures and patterns. The children will be using and understanding positional language such as on, under, beside as part of games and activities.</p>
<p><b>Communication, language and literacy</b></p> <p>This term, the children will have lots of opportunities to develop their speaking and listening skills through drama work, role play, sharing stories and small-world play. Our role play area will be a travel agents, where the children will be making posters, labels and signs as well as having the opportunity to develop their communication skills as they take on different roles. Our Literacy work will be based around stories from Africa. This will include the Tingatinga tales, which explore how animals came to be the way they are. We will also be sharing stories where the children can join in with the repeated text, such as 'Dear Zoo' by Rod Campell and 'Were going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. The children will be recalling the main events in order, making small world models to retell the stories and carrying out drama work. Linked with the text 'Handa's Surprise' by Eileen Browne the children will be tasting exotic fruits and following and drawing instructions to make fresh fruit salad. Through the text 'Mama Panya's Pancakes' by Mary Chamberlin, we will explore life in a Kenyan village and create instructions for making pancakes. They will have regular guided reading sessions and daily letters and sounds sessions where they will be learning to recognise and write the initial letter sounds, using Jolly Phonics and a range of interactive games and activities.</p>	<p><b>Understanding the World</b></p> <p>Through our topic the children will be exploring Africa; finding Africa on the globe and world maps and learning about the people who live there. They will be finding out about African animals through videos, photographs and information books. Learning about what these animals eat, how they move and where they live. They will also be learning about and comparing local animals and their own pets. The children will be comparing Whixall Village with a Kenyan Village, looking at ways of life, the people who live there and their homes. We will be looking at some of the key habitats in Africa and finding out which animals live there. This will include using reclaimed materials to create a small world jungle, desert and grasslands for the children to play with model animals.</p> <p>Throughout the year, the children will be exploring the seasons. The children will select a class tree, which they will observe and photograph each month to explore the changes that occur as we move through the seasons, discussing changes in weather and the plants and animals that live in, on or under the tree.</p> <p>The children will be learning to use the iPads to select and use simple programs, such 'Switch Zoo' as an art program.</p>
<p><b>Physical Development</b></p> <p>The children will have regular opportunities to develop their fine motor skills with activities such as using tweezers, threading, making shapes in sand, shaving foam, with water and dough disco (where children manipulate dough to music to develop their strength and coordination in their hand, elbow and shoulder). The children will have a weekly PE lesson, in the first half term we will have dance, where we will explore the movements of African animals and in the second half they will do gymnastics, using the floor, small and large apparatus to develop control and coordination. Alongside this they will have daily access to a range of outdoor activities, in their play sessions, such as climbing, negotiating obstacles, running, ball games and using the play equipment.</p>	<p><b>Expressive Arts and Design</b></p> <p>The children will be studying the art work of Edward Tingatinga and then using his techniques for their own African animal paintings. They will also be making their own African drums and using them to repeat simple rhythms and beats. We will be listening to a variety African music. The children will be using percussion instruments to make music, for example to make the sounds effects linked to 'Were going on a Bear Hunt' and as part of their play. We will be making African animals out of clay and using reclaimed materials to make small world settings and models. The children will have the opportunity to engage in imaginative play in our role play areas, small world play areas and through drama work.</p>

Possible ways of helping your child with their work this term:

- Ensure they complete any home activities given.
- Visit the library to look at or borrow books connected with the work that they are doing.
- Use the Internet and visit websites to research information about the topic area.
- Visit places of interest connected with the work that your child is doing.
- Allow your child to bring information into

Useful websites:

Topic:

<https://easyscienceforkids.com/all-about-africa/>

<https://www.kids-world-travel-guide.com/africa-facts.html>

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/z6882hv> (Science)

Literacy:

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/ParentsMenu.htm>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COJdn6sbbsk> (Jolly phonics songs in order)

Mathematics:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths/>

## Whixall Church of England Primary school



### Curriculum Information for Parents

#### Autumn Term 2018 Dragonfly Class



**'Amazing Africa'**