

English:

Our English work this term will be based around Charles Dickens and Victorian times. In keeping with our topic, the children will find out who Charles Dickens was; forming a short biography about his life and writing. The children will have the chance to consider some of the themes and topics of his writing. We will then focus on *Oliver Twist*, exploring the setting and characters of the story. We will focus on descriptive writing of some scenes from the story, then explore some retellings. Children will learn and perform the poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes and explore character perspective. In the second half of term, we will read 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens and write a diary entry for one of the characters.

Mathematics:

In our mathematics sessions this term we will be building on the children's knowledge and understanding of problem solving with the four operations. We will be learning about patterns and rules for different types of numbers, as well as developing our written and mental calculations in multiplication and division. The children will also be exploring the relationship between percentages, fractions and decimals, how to identify 2D and 3D shapes, and what methods are appropriate when faced with a problem to solve.

Science:

Our science topics this term are 'Electricity' and 'Forces'. The children will explore the terminology related to electricity such as current and voltage, exploring how the brightness of a lamp or volume of a buzzer changes depending on the power source connected to it. The children will draw simple or parallel circuits. They will use their knowledge of electrical circuits to create a circuit with either a buzzer or a light for a specific purpose. The children will then consider a range of forces and what the impact of balanced and uneven forces are on different objects.

Humanities: Our topic this term is based around the history of Whixall since the building of school. The children will consider what life might have been like for children who first attended the school during the reign of Queen Victoria. They will explore signs of how the building was once used and will use information from the 'Archives' in Shrewsbury to learn how the school has developed over time from real life primary sources. The children will then focus on how life in Whixall has changed, throughout the Wars and up to the modern day. As part of this work, we will be exploring the lives of families from the area as well as how aspects of transport and general life changed.

P.S.H.E. During PSHE lessons this term, children will first focus on a unit called 'Being me in my World'. In this, they will consider target setting and consider what unites them as a group. Our second unit after half term will be 'Celebrating Difference' where the children will consider what it means to be 'different' cultural, emotionally and socially.

P.E. For our PE sessions this term, the children will take part in swimming lessons. During the sessions, children will develop further water confidence; refine and develop swimming techniques; and perform water safety. We will also have a coach in school developing tennis skills.

Art and Design: This term, our learning will be centred around the idea of print works. The children will be focusing on the inspirational works of William Morris, where we will be creating our own tiles to produce a print. The children will be practising their pencil line skills in the process before evaluating their artwork.

Design and Technology: In D&T, the children will be learning about electrical systems and creating complex switches and circuits. We will be designing through the use of sketching, producing a step-by-step plan, before ending with an evaluation of what has been created.

R.E. -Why do some people believe in God and some people not? This unit focuses on ideas and answers from Christians about belief in God. It will give the children the opportunity to consider their own and others' ideas on this question. **Why do Hindus try to be good?** This unit focuses on Hinduism and builds on work that children will have done earlier in Key Stage 2, where the focus was on Hindu life in Britain today.

Computing:Y5: The children will be focusing on search engines. We will be learning about why they are so useful, how they work, and what we should do to make sure we get the best and most accurate search results. **Y6:** The children will be learning about Bletchley Park and its importance during the World War. We will be focusing on the importance of keeping data secure for individuals and businesses.

Music This term, music will take place on Tuesday afternoons. The children will work with a specialist music teacher exploring pieces of music, using different instruments, and composing their own musical compositions. Children will use different musical terms to describe and analyse music.

Spanish This term, the children will learn common Spanish greetings as well as how to respond to questions such as what their name is, their age and what the weather is like. They will begin to use phrases to describe what they do and do not like. Children will continue to rehearse spoken Spanish and will begin to record and translate some written Spanish.

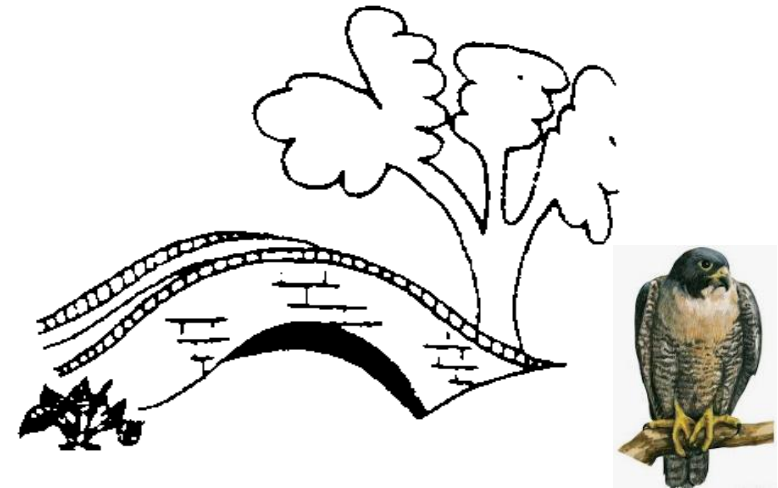
Whixall Church of England Primary School

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

- Ensure that they complete any homework given.
- Visit the library to look at or borrow books connected with the work that your child is doing.
- Use the internet and visit some of the websites listed below to research information.
- Visit places of interest connected with the work that your child is doing.
- Allow your child to bring information into school to share with the rest of the class.

Useful Websites:

- <http://www.kidrex.org/>
a brilliant child friendly search engine.
- <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/victorians.html>
- <http://www.whixallhistory.co.uk/page36.html>
- www.ttrockstars.com



Curriculum Information for Parents Peregrine Class



How has Whixall changed?
Autumn Term 2023