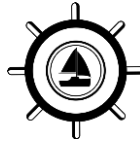


Whitstable Junior School



Term 2 Curriculum Information 2018 For parents in Year 4



Mrs Migden, Miss Oliver, Mrs Barden, Mrs Browning and Mr Seppala all welcome you back to Term 2. As the days grow shorter and the nights grow longer and we wind our way towards the most exciting time for our children - Christmas!!!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to ask us or any member of staff on the gate in the morning.



What are we learning about this term?



Key Areas covered this term in Maths:

This term, we will be covering fractions and decimals through a range of investigative lessons that involve formal, written methods and practical problem solving. The children will need to access their times tables knowledge, extend their understanding of place value and make connections between a fraction and its decimal equivalent. As the term progresses, we will apply the skills we have learned to money and measure.



Times-tables:

As last term, we are continuing to secure knowledge of times tables and inverse division facts in Year 4. We will be **checking these every Tuesday** and would greatly appreciate your help in practicing them with your child. They will be aware of the x-table they are working on. Please can you practice out of sequence as well as in sequence, as we are finding that some children are unable to recall facts out of context.

Key Areas covered this term in English:

We will be linking, as usual, with our Topic and this term we scale volcanoes, get sucked up by tornadoes and blown about by hurricanes in our exploration of Natural Disasters. We begin by visiting David Wiesner's stunningly illustrated, 'Hurricane' which provides background and a stimulus for the children to write their own hurricane story. To provide a potential backdrop, we will make a trip to Thornden Woods to hear the wind whistling in the trees and visualise the curious shapes made by fallen trees. The children will also watch live reports from the eye of a storm in order to write their own. As we count down to Christmas, we follow Michael Morpurgo's poor little robin in his efforts whilst 'Coming Home' and compile our own non-chronological reports on robins.

Reading at home:

Please continue to share a book with your child as regularly as possible and **remember to sign their bookmark**. We are working towards a lower school celebration for bookmarks that are signed.

Spellings:

Children will be sent out a list of spellings to learn over the term, for weekly spelling tests. The spellings comprise of words that follow a spelling rule and are in the Year 3/4 NC spellings.



Natural Disasters, Art, French and PE:



Throughout Term 2, the children will be **learning about Natural Disasters** including the structure of the Earth from crust to core and understanding how the movement of tectonic plates affects the Earth and can cause earthquakes as well as the rise and fall of mountains. They will experiment with 'volcano' making and dissect them to explore what lies beneath. We will simulate an earthquake in class and role-play how children in countries affected by them may react in emergency situations.

Links will be made with **Art and DT** in which we will create 3D pictures of tornadoes and a tsunami in a box! Furthermore, the children will continue to develop their co-ordination and fitness through dance, gym and team games in their **PE** lessons. We will continue with our **French** focus of animals and to recap numbers and colours. Vocabulary can be found at: <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-t-2382-animal-word-cards-french>



PHSE:

At WJS, we have 6 main values: **Respect, Fairness, Trust, Responsibility, Determination and Caring**. Our PHSE focus for the second term will be Fairness. They will learn through circle time, stories, direct teaching and peer work the importance of diversity, British Values, being a good friend and identifying bullying. The week commencing November 12th will be Anti-Bullying Week which will involve focused assemblies and planned lesson delivery.

Here are a few extra pieces of useful information that we would like to share with you:

- Children are encouraged to bring a **healthy snack** for break time; this can be a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. If you prefer, the children can **purchase a fruit token** from their teacher in the morning for **40p** and spend it at the fruit café at break.
- **PE kits should be in school every day** due to weather constraints and occasional changes in timetable.
- **Homework for Literacy, Maths and Topic will be sent out on a Wednesday to be returned the next Monday.**
- Topic homework is based on a points system; we encourage the children to select their own activity each week to complete with the aim of achieving 30 points or more over the term. **If there are any difficulties with homework or children are struggling, Mrs Browning runs a homework club during Lunchtime on a Thursday.** Everyone is welcome and she will be there to support if needed.

Dates for the diary:

-Poppies on sale from 1st November.

-WW1 Celebrations - Thursday 8th and Friday 9th November. Children are invited to dress up as an evacuee on the Thursday.

Tombola Thursday is on Thursday 15th November

Our Open morning is on Saturday 17th November for prospective parents.

Tuesday 27th November - Is our Pantomime Day and wear a Christmas jumper.

Thursday 6th December is our Christmas Fair from 3:15pm

Our Year 3 Nativity will be performed to the school on Monday 10th December

Our choir will be singing to the Residents of Bradbury Grange on Wednesday 12th December

End of Term is Friday 14th December at 3:15pm.

