



The Whartons Primary School

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TOPIC INFORMATION FOR YEAR 1 - Spring 2 2022

Our topic for this half term is 'Julia Donaldson'. We have enjoyed reading and reciting 'The Gruffalo' and will continue to look at her other work and learn about her life as well. We have transformed our role play area into a writing workshop in which the children will be able to write and illustrate their own stories.

Below is a brief overview of some of the curriculum coverage within each subject;

Subject:	Class work:	How you can help:
English	We will start the unit by learning the life of Julia Donaldson, writing biographies as well as studying the rhymes within her stories and writing some poetry. We will also focus on 'The Gruffalo' story, adding actions to the rhymes to create our own text map. Once the children are familiar with the structure and story, we will use it to write our own 'terrible creature' themed stories. We will finish off our English topic by creating our own Spring poems, taking inspiration from the changing environment around us.	Ask your child to act out 'The Gruffalo' using our actions. Read Julia Donaldson stories at home. Encourage them to find the adjectives within the books -can they think of any different ones? Take a look at www.juliadonaldson.co.uk with your child to find out about her life and interests.
Mathematics	<p>Pupils will continue to learn about Place Value to 50 - counting forwards and backwards beginning with 0 or 1, or from any number. They will practise reading and writing the words from 0 to 50. We will be comparing objects and numbers to 50, ordering numbers to 50 and finding one more and one less.</p> <p>Next, we will move onto the measurement of length and height. Children will begin to use and understand the language of length such as long, longer, short, shorter, tall, taller. They will recognise this language will change depending on what type of length they are describing and comparing. Children understand that height is a type of length. They should also be exposed to lengths that are equal to one another.</p> <p>Finally, we will cover the measurement of weight and volume. Children are introduced to weight and mass for the first time. They may already have some understanding of heavy and light from their own experience of carrying objects.</p> <p>Children will begin by holding objects and describing them using vocabulary such as heavy, light, heavier than, lighter than before using the scales to check.</p>	<p>Play counting games with your child which allow them to practise counting forwards and backwards to and from 50.</p> <p>With regards to our measuring topics, any of the vocabulary listed on the left can be used at home with everyday items. They might enjoy arranging their toys in height order or working out which of their toys is the heaviest. If you have scales at home, they could then weigh their toys to see if they're correct.</p> <p>We continue to practise the Year 1 KIRFs daily. Details of these can be found on the school website.</p>

Science	In Science, we will be looking at the changing seasons, focusing on Spring. The children will explore the changes that we can see in Spring. Such as longer daylight hours, warmer temperatures, flowers blooming and animals coming out of hibernation.	Talk to your child about the signs of Spring we will be able to see around us. Go on a Spring Hunt trying to find things we associate with Spring.
Geography	This half term's Geography will focus on map skills and compass points. We will be drawing and labelling our own maps using the school grounds to help us. We will learn the compass points North, South, East and West and label our own compasses.	Ask your child if they can remember the rhyme (Never Eat Slimy Worms) to order the 4 compass points. Show them maps paper copies and on the internet. Can they explain where one place is in relation to another using the compass points? Does your child know their journey to school? Can you help them to draw it out on paper for them to talk about in class?
Art	Using the book 'The Paper Dolls' (also by Julia Donaldson) as inspiration, we will design, fold, cut and paint our own personal set of paper dolls. We will only use the three primary colours to paint with so the children will be experimenting by mixing different paints to work out how to make secondary colours.	Ask your child <i>which two colours mix together to make orange, green, purple, pink and grey?</i> Can they tell you what effect white paint has when added to a darker colour?
Music	In Music, our focus is on Latin Music. The children will be learning to keep a steady pulse and play at different speeds, copy a simple rhythm and differentiate between pulse and rhythm. They will also learn about and control changes in tempo with their bodies, and instruments, e.g. faster/slower. The vocabulary of pitch will be used, and pupils will be asked to spot differences in pitch recognising high and low sounds.	Listen to all types of music with your child. Introduce them to a variety of musical genres and enjoy them together. Ask their opinions on the music they hear - how does it make them feel? Can they identify changes in rhythm? Can they spot a chorus? Do they enjoy the same music as you?
R.E.	In R.E. the children will learn about what it means to belong to a church or mosque. They will learn what they might see in a mosque or church building, and what the people do when they go there. They will learn that churches and mosques are special places for the people who go there.	Talk to your child about what it might mean to belong to a church or mosque.
Computing	We are Lego Builders - This unit encourages children to begin to think logically about scenarios. Children will be introduced to the term 'algorithm'. This concept is at the core of coding.	Help your child by giving them instructions to follow while using a laptop. Let them trial and error which step should go first in order for success.
PSHCE	Healthy Me - This term the children will explore what it means to be healthy. The children will	Discuss with your child what being healthy means. How are you healthy

	discuss what can we do to lead a healthy life as well as the benefits of being healthy.	at home? Ask why they think we need to be healthy.
Specific dates	P.E. - Monday and Wednesday Spelling Homework - Handed out on a Wednesday, collected in on Wednesday. Handwriting Homework - Handed out on a Friday, collected in on a Wednesday.	
Targets for children	Remember to bring book bag and reading book to school each day. Bring a named, water bottle to school every day. Handwriting practise at home. Read daily at home. Learn the weekly spellings.	
Please can you ensure your child's name is written in/on anything they bring into school. Thanks.		