



P.P.S. Willow Class

April 2021
Summer Term

World War II / Athletic Aspirations

Dear Parents,

Year 6's last ever term of primary school has arrived! We are looking forward to making the most of the time the children have left, here at Petworth Primary School. We hope to provide them with some enjoyable experiences that they will remember for many years to come. We are delighted by the news that the long-awaited PGL trip is now going ahead on the 21st May.

We are looking forward to the upcoming parents' evening so we can discuss your child's learning: it has been an unusual year to say the least and, as ever, we will endeavour to do everything possible to ensure the children are ready for their transition to secondary school. This process will be supported by 1:1 pupil conferencing with every child to ensure they feel confident and ready for secondary education.

As part of our WWII topic, the class will be analysing propaganda in history lessons. They will consider the effects of events leading up to the start of the war and discuss how the Battle of Britain can be seen as a turning point. Children will also be learning how Jewish people were persecuted during this period. Their understanding of these events will be deepened by studying literature linked to WWII such as, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*.

In addition to our historical work, children will continue to develop their geographical skills: they will build on their prior knowledge of using grid references and, as part of our Athletic Aspiration topic, design an orienteering course for the school.

This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects comments on the annual report.

In Science, we will be learning about the classification of living things. We will find out about Carl Linnaeus and his 'binomial system' for naming plants and animals. Children will gain an understanding of what is meant by the term 'micro-organism' and conduct experiments to find out how these organisms change and grow. We will explore our local environment and learn to use and design classification keys for the living things around us.

In the latter half of the term we will find out about how the human body works. Children will improve their understanding of the circulatory system, nutrition and how exercise affects our health.

In R.E. we will continue to deepen children's understanding of the Christian faith and how this affects the way people live. We will also be giving the children opportunities to study other religions, comparing and contrasting beliefs and practices. Children will choose different faiths to research and discuss. Their learning journey will be shared with the class in group presentations.

In P.S.H.E. children will be learning about maintaining good health, both physically and mentally. They will find out about how different substances affect our bodies and who is responsible for children's health and well-being. Children will also cover SRE (Sex and Relationship Education). This unit of work involves learning about menstruation, conception, puberty, personal hygiene and the media portrayal of sex.



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P.E. lessons will focus on striking and fielding skills. Children will evaluate different techniques and build on their ability to use strategies as part of a team. In Athletics children will be working to develop their fitness, speed and agility. Children will also take a lead on organising a variety of intra-school events as part of National Sports Week (June 21st-26th)

Sports Day this year will not be going ahead. However, children will be taking part in a series of Olympics-inspired events during the school day.

Children can continue to wear their P.E. kits on the allocated days (Thursdays and Fridays). Please ensure they have suitable clothing to be able to take part in outdoor physical activity. Children will be continuing to run regularly as part of our Magic Mile.

In Art, children will learn about how to show perspective in drawings. They will explore how vanishing points can be used to create depth. Their 'final piece' for this topic will be a landscape painting of our Anderson Shelter. Later in the term we will take inspiration from our sporting topic and create sculptures and collages that depict movement.

Mrs Soal will be teaching French once a week to consolidate what has been taught over key stage 2. Later in the term, she will teach a topic entitled, 'Notre école' (Our school). In this unit, children extend their knowledge of places around the school and learn to talk about everyday routines and subjects studied during the school day. They revise telling the time to the hour and extend this to using half-hours and quarter-hours. They look at school timetables and begin to give times using 24-hour clock notation. They find out about timings of the school day in a French-speaking country and compare with their own. They talk about what they did at break time and create short texts describing these activities.

As part of our Computing curriculum, children will explore computer aided design software such as TinkerCad. We

hope to be able to print our designs on the 3D printer we have on loan.

Design and Technology lessons will provide the children with the opportunity to use our allotment area to grow fruit and vegetables. Children will use this produce to design, cook evaluate dishes which would suit the nutritional requirements of an Olympic athlete of their choosing.

Of course, English and Maths will be taught on a daily basis and will often be linked to the topic areas listed above. Maths this term will consolidate children's ability to calculate with all four operations and apply these skills in context. Children will build upon their knowledge of the properties of shape, calculate area and perimeter and analyse a variety of data.

English lessons will support the children's ability to use text to answer questions with detailed and well-justified answers. The children's understanding of SPAG (Spelling Punctuation and Grammar) will also be a key focus, particularly verb tense. Our topics will provide us with countless opportunities for writing.

Please remember that all homework is posted on the class blog weekly (accessed via the school website) and children in year 6 have access to Times-Table Rockstars and Maths Prodigy. Letters sent through the office are also downloadable from the website.

It has been a pleasure to teach this group of children and we are confident that they will continue to thrive as they embark upon the next step of their educational journey.

Rob Neary (Class Teacher Willow Explorers)
Emma McGrath (Class Teacher Willow Investigators)
Jo Gill and Steph Mayne (Teaching Assistants)