

Foundation Stage Unit

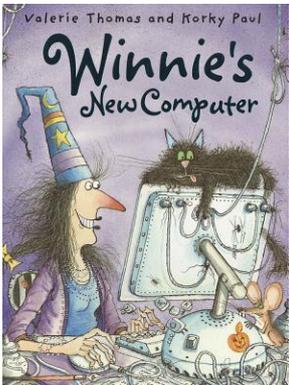
Curriculum Newsletter - Summer Term

Recharge your batteries, plug in your brain power and switch on your senses; it's time to tune in and turn on to technology!

This half term, we'll reflect on our Zoom lessons last term and continue to take part in whole school Zooms such as Celebration Assembly. We will be using these opportunities to ask and answer questions. Throughout the project, we'll use a wide variety of equipment. Digital cameras will help us to record the beauty of our local environment, computers and tablets will be used to record audio stories, and we'll also use a keyboard, mouse and PC to write and draw. We'll use a variety of software and explore paint packages and our programming skills will improve as we use commands to move robots around the floor. We will think about changes in technology over time, including inventions and how they have changed our lives.

At the end of the project, we'll read storybooks that will help us to understand e-safety messages and remind us that it is sometimes important to switch off technology and have fun with our friends and families.

Literacy



This term we shall be reading lots of books linked to our topic. The children will explore the books and stories through activities which will develop their imagination include acting out the stories, art and design, retelling and sequencing events in the stories.

The children's enjoyment of stories is so important to their progress. Please support your child with their reading by sharing a story together every evening if at all possible.

Our reception children will continue to think about and discuss features of books and stories and will take part in Phonics sessions daily. This half term we will continue to develop our confidence in reading and build our independence in writing.

Mathematics

We will begin this term by further developing our understanding of measurement - we will re-visit and deepen our understanding of length, height and capacity before moving on to learn about 'time' and 'money'. As part of our topic work, we will set physical challenges using stop watch technology.

We will be playing lots of maths games and will enjoying practical tasks and opportunities to explore during independent learning time. We will have lots of role play areas each week including a Post Office, A 999 Emergency Operator, a Recording Studio and a Library!





Expressive Arts and Design

Throughout the term the children will experience a range of different expressive art and design activities linked to our topic work and also to our maths - we will create our own analogue and digital clocks. Our Innovate Project towards the end of term will involve designing and creating our very own technology gadget or machine.

Communication and Language

We will develop our ability to listening well to others - in groups and in pairs and build our ability to clarify our understanding of others by asking appropriate questions as well as answering questions in full using informative and descriptive vocabulary. We will play lots of listening games and enjoy rhymes and word games.



Physical Development

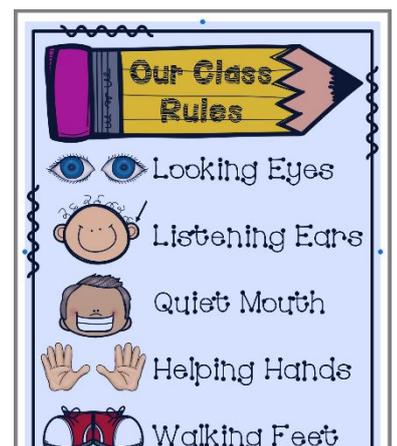
The children will do physical activities in class every day - experimenting with different movements and balances. Our Reception children will develop their physical skills further in PE one afternoon a week. We will continue to discuss ways in which we can make sure we look after ourselves and keep ourselves and each other safe as well as the importance of hygiene and tooth brushing.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will focus on our ability to be independent at school and will work on our learning power skills.

We will help one another to remember the importance of the rules we have at school and the reasons for them. We will learn how best we can resolve disagreements with others in an appropriate way.

Our School value this half term is 'Friendship'.



How can you help at home?

- Read a bedtime story with your child and encourage them to join in.
- Ask your children what they have been learning that day/week and ask them questions to support and extend their learning. Technology is all around us. Why not have a technology hunt at home? Take pictures of electrical objects that entertain, help people to communicate, or help to save time, and share them at school. Alternatively, have a technology-free day. Switch off phones and TVs, leave computers unplugged and cook without a microwave. Will you survive? Talk is fundamental to your child's language development.
- Share and contribute to your child's Learning Journal online via Tapestry*.
- If your child is in Reception - encourage your child to practise early writing whenever they can. For example, practising their sounds, writing a shopping list, labels, or a letter to someone special to them.
- Support your Reception aged children to learn Tricky words.
- Provide practical situations where your child can recognise and name shapes and numbers.
- If your child is absent from school due to having to self-isolate, access the home learning tasks suggested.

Communication with FSU staff

Please speak to the member of staff at the beginning or end of the school day (or your child's session with us), if there is anything you would like to pass on to staff with regards to your child wellbeing. If you wish to discuss anything in more detail or should you wish to speak to staff confidentially then please let us know by e-mailing the school office admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk and we will contact you to arrange this.

It was with some sadness that we said Goodbye to Miss Coles at the end of last term. However, the children bid her a fond farewell and we wish her all the best with her move to Scotland. We are excited to welcome Miss Hook to the FSU team.

Thank you, as always, for your support.