

## Willow Class Autumn 2020 – Learning Journey Information



### Blue Abyss

Grab your wetsuit! We're going on a deep-sea adventure!

This half term, we are going to gain an insight into the ocean world. We'll sketch different creatures and create clay sculptures of our favourite. Writing poems inspired by our favourite sea creatures will help us to develop a rich vocabulary. Using maps, globes and atlases, we'll identify the world's oceans and seas. We'll also find different ways of grouping living things. Diving back into the 1800s, we'll learn all about the HMS *Challenger*. We'll research Jacques Cousteau and write biographies about his exciting explorations. As a challenge, we'll create model submarines using recycled materials and program an onscreen submarine. We'll study Antony Gormley's *Another Place* sculpture and write reviews. After locating the Great Barrier Reef on a map, we'll learn about the risks it faces.

Near half term, we'll listen to the soothing sounds of whale song and write ballads about whales. We will create an 'Oceans art gallery' and prepare workshops about sustainability which we will share with you via Seesaw.

Oceans are remarkable and fascinating places that are full of life. Why not visit the coast together to see an ocean or sea up close? You may be able to visit the Blue Reef Aquarium in Southsea – this would have been our class trip but unfortunately, we are unable to do this due to Covid. You could also look at an atlas or online map to find out which seas and oceans surround Britain. Alternatively, work together to create an under-the-sea collage using different materials to represent the plants, creatures and water.

### Key information and dates

Children to wear PE kit to school	Mondays and Fridays
Weekly homework	Spellings and a times table given Monday and tested Friday
Bring in recycling for bottle submarine Design Technology project	21 <sup>st</sup> September 2020 (this allows for a week of decontamination in school before being used)
Topic homework due	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> October
Inset day	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October and Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October

# Homework

**Spelling** - We will be following a new spelling scheme this year. Children will be given spellings on a Monday and then tested on these on Friday. Some children will be given just 2 spellings, others up to 5, but they will all be of the same difficulty. The next week they will be given additional spellings and tested on both sets the following Friday so that the list gets longer week by week. This is designed to ensure that children internalise the spellings and retain them to use in their own writing. Spellings will be written in the Home School Diary and posted on Seesaw. There will be opportunities to practice at school, but practice at home is encouraged so that the children can make their best progress.

**Times tables** - As you may be aware, there is now a statutory times tables test at the end of Year 4 with the expectation that children know and can recall quickly all times tables facts up to 12x. Your child will be focussing on a particular times table each week. This will be written in the Home School Diary and posted on Seesaw. There will be opportunities to practice at school, but practice at home is encouraged so that the children can make their best progress. New *TT Rockstar* accounts will be created so that children can practice using this fun online game at school and at home if this is the best method for your child.

**Reading** – children will read daily at school, either as a whole class, independently or to an adult. At this time, due to Covid, we are unable to allow children to take books home. We do encourage you to read to your child at home and hear them read on a regular basis. If you are running out of material at home, I think you can now reserve books from West Sussex libraries, you could download books to read online or perhaps swap books with friends if you feel comfortable to do so.

**Topic homework** - Attached you will find a number of homework projects/ideas. If your child has another idea they would like to explore then just let us know. Children are expected to prepare at least two pieces of homework to present to the class in the week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> October. As children cannot bring items into school at this time, they could either present a video of what they have done, PowerPoint or photos of what they have created at home.

## ***Together we Achieve Programme***

This Year, Willow Class are lucky enough to be taking part in the *Together We Achieve* programme every Monday afternoon for the whole year. This will start on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. It will be delivered by specialist members of staff along with Mrs Webb. The children are asked to come to school in full PE kit on Mondays, suitable for outdoors so include jogging bottoms and a hoodie or sweatshirt.

The aim of the programme is to provide opportunities that enable children to develop life skills that will help them find new ways of thinking, problem solve, take responsibility of what they do, building confidence and resilience. The programme is designed promote British values, healthy living and wellbeing, and to teach children and young people life skills that will help improve resilience, confidence, leadership, respect, honesty and teamwork. It will include:

- Team Building – Activities that are designed to help build resilience, listening and confidence. This is delivered through experimental learning activities which are based on problem solving, working together and questioning. Each session will include a specific teamwork, individual and physical activity.
- First Aid Training – Teach First Aid skills. The lifesaving skills will include CPR, defibrillator awareness, the recovery position, dealing with a severe bleed, help a casualty that is choking and the primary survey (certified by BHF).
- Playmaker Award – Introduction to sports leadership and being a leader activity, using the PACE (participants, area, communication and equipment) method to leading activities. Planning games using no equipment, planning games using equipment, plan an activity morning for a lower year group class, practising the activities and delivering the activities (certificated by sports leaders).
- Survival Skills – Introduction to basic survival skills that include navigation, shelter building and making a fire – all designed to improve teamwork skills and a child's character and own life skills.
- Social/Community Project – All children will participate in a project working together that will benefit the local or school community.

## **PE**

As the *Together We Achieve* is part of our Physical Education, we have just one dedicated PE lesson per week. This will be on a Friday and due to Covid, we ask children to come into school in full PE kits on Fridays.

If you have any questions then please do contact us on [willow@chidham.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:willow@chidham.w-sussex.sch.uk) and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Mrs Webb and Mrs Morgan