

Wincle School creates an enriching and outstanding rural education, nurturing the whole individual: body, mind and soul, inspiring rounded, happy, courageous children who shine in all that they say and do, exhibiting a passion for learning, a confident faith, a loving concern for community and an inclusive respect for all.

'Shine Like Stars' Phillipians 2:15

Welcome to Saturn Learning Update for Spring Term 2025

Introduction

Happy New Year to all of our families! We are looking forward to our daylight gradually expanding once again and more opportunities to encourage our pupils to '*Shine Like Stars*,' (Phillipians 2:15) each day and to do this by displaying our core Christian values:

Respect, Compassion, Hope, Perseverance, Integrity

Throughout each school day, we will be helping pupils acknowledge how they celebrate the achievement and break-through vows of success, how we can support them with the lows of difficulty and frustrations, and how we can maximise the everyday moment of concentration and being in the present, creating a sense of calm and completeness.

The teaching staff will continue to be: Mrs Metcalfe, Miss Kershaw and Miss Williams taking some groups and the teachers will be supported by Miss Williams.

English

We are beginning this new term by reading the non-fiction book entitled 'My Strong Mind'. This has a lovely cross-over into PSHE and aims to build resilience in children. We will also use it to model our writing of instructions. To further build our narrative writing skills, we will be retelling the story of 'A Lion in Paris' and then later in the term we will link our writing to our science topic and work on a non-fiction piece all about plants.

Spelling

Some of our children are still further consolidating their phonics knowledge before starting on our Y2/3 spelling teaching whilst others will continue to build their Y2/3/4 spelling ability through working with our weekly 'sound of the week'. Each week, we will learn and revisit a Y2 spelling rule and introduce a new Y3/4 spelling rule that connects to our sound of the week. We will also continue to revisit some 'common exception words' each week to consolidate our learning throughout the term. Your child's school spelling/phonics book will continue to be sent home daily as last term. As last term, we will test the children on a Monday. Please continue to encourage and support your child to complete their spelling activities daily if possible. Persevering with spellings at this stage really pays off in your child's writing skills. We have already seen real improvement.

We ask that pupils continue to read each night and spend some time on their school reading book. Where possible, spend time together identifying wow and ow moments in stories and discuss how characters cope with these moments. How would you deal with these events?

Maths

In our maths lessons, we will be working on multiplication and division then length, height and perimeter before further consolidating our addition and subtraction skills through money. As per Mrs Smith's newsletter, we have revised our homework provision and we will be in touch soon with further details on this for this term. We will set mental maths work that we can work on at speed. Any practice you can support your child with at home, or even mentally on the way to and from school, would be of great benefit to them.

Science

In science this term, the learning will be linked to the 'biology' topics of 'Animals, including humans' and then plants. We will start the new year looking at how we look after our body whilst connecting this in English and PSHE to how we look after our minds. We will learn about our skeleton and teeth and life cycles. After developing our vocabulary around some of the key concepts, we will be developing our scientific observational skills and further our understanding of testing 'fairly' in order to produce measurable scientific results.

Art/Design and Technology

We will start the new term finishing our 'Moving Monsters' projects. The children have been using pneumatic systems to design their monsters. Their finished monsters will have remotely operated moving parts and then they will evaluate their own projects. Following this, we will begin our art topic of textiles. We will be inspired by Dawn Ireland. We will develop our sewing skills and make decorative hangings.

RE

In the run up to Easter, we will further develop the children's understanding of the Easter story. Before this we will focus on Jesus' life and his teachings and how Jesus can and did change peoples' lives. How can Jesus and the stories in the Bible help us to make changes that are in keeping with our Christian values?

Computing

To start the term off we will be revisiting online safety for the first week. Our focus will be on using technology safely, respectfully and responsibly and recognising acceptable and unacceptable behaviour. The children will identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact in the context of recognising cyberbullying. Then we will be moving onto 'questioning.' Children will learn about data handling tools that can give more information than pictograms, how to use yes/no questions to separate information, to construct a binary tree and databases to identify items and answer more complex questions. We will then move on to 'making music.' This unit will provide the children with the knowledge and understanding to create simple and more complex animations using 2Sequence. The children can use 2Sequence to explore harmony and build up musical scores.

History

In history, under the over-arching theme of agriculture, we will focus on The Romans before half term and the Anglo Saxons and the Vikings in the second half of the term. We will learn about key discoveries and how historians know and piece together the information we have, whilst developing our grasp of chronology and time lines.

Geography

In Geography, we will develop our knowledge of weather and climate locally. We will be getting out and about and measuring temperature and observing weather patterns both at the beginning and at the end of the Spring term. We will learn about the difference between weather and climate. We will learn about climate zones and the vegetation belts in Europe.

PSHE

In PSHE, we will revisit the essential topics of bullying, anti-bullying and mental health from last term and we will also learn more about our physical health as well as learning about how we keep safe and manage risk.

PE

In PE this term, the children will be working with coach Kyle on hockey and basketball. With Miss Kershaw, the children will be working on gymnastics first. Within this unit, the children will build on previous skills to perform a straight jump with 1/2 and full turn in a sequence with control, body tension and pointed toes, perform a Teddy Bear roll with control and pointed toes, perform a Point and Patch balance sequence and bunny hop onto apparatus with control.

Music

In music, we will be consolidating our understanding of beat and rhythm and further developing our ability to read and recognise notes. We will be listening to Gamelan and Ravel's Bolero and developing our improvisational skills.

French

In French, we will continue to follow our 'Cave languages' curriculum. The children will learn more about French culture. They will learn a traditional French rhyme and develop their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills around the topics of: Colours, Clothes and Numbers.