



Weston Village Primary School

Blackbirds Class

Parent Information Sheet

Spring Term 2026

Welcome to Blackbirds Class. The aim of this leaflet is to give you an overview of the curriculum areas that will be covered during the coming term and to provide you with other important information. We hope that you find the information useful. We welcome your child bringing in work/posters/artefacts etc. related to any of the areas we are studying this term.

We will continue to use Class Dojo to upload, provide links to or signpost the children's homework tasks. As parents, you will be able to see all your child's homework and teachers will be able to provide feedback. Home and school will also use it to communicate with each other for other purposes and teachers will use it to post reminders or whole class messages.

Various learning platforms are used to support your child's education. These login details will be sent home at the start of the year in their reading diary.

Please note that children must not bring any unnecessary items into school. The children are required to bring their reading diary, reading book, pencil case and refillable water bottle daily.

Any pupil absences are to be reported via the school office.

Should you need to, please use Class Dojo to communicate with us via their message service or by email.

Blackbirds Class will be taught by Mrs McKenzie (mmckenzie@weston.cheshire.sch.uk) on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and by Mrs Armitt (carmitt@weston.cheshire.sch.uk) on Wednesdays.

What Are We Learning This Term?

Maths



YEAR 4

Number – Multiplication and Division;

Measurement – Length and Perimeter;

Number – Fractions (including decimals and percentages)

English



We will develop our reading and writing skills across a range of genres and text types using high quality texts.

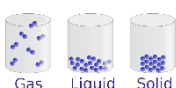
The children will write a myth narrative and an instructional guide for defeating a Viking monster inspired by Arthur & The Golden Rope by Joe Todd-Stanton.

Then we will be creating a twisted narrative and a persuasive letter. These will be inspired by the book The Lost Happy Endings by Carol Ann Duffy.

We will be focusing on expanding noun phrases by modifying adjectives, nouns and prepositions; using commas after fronted adverbials; apostrophes for possession (plural nouns); and inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech.

In addition, we will have regular 'Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar' sessions and we will have weekly Guided Reading and Handwriting sessions.

Science



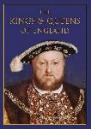







States of Matter




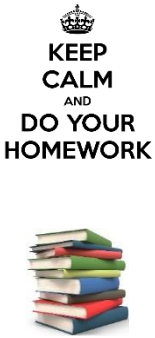
This 'States of Matter' unit the children will be learning about the differences between solids, liquids and gases, classifying objects and identifying their properties. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate the weight of a gas. Furthermore, they will have chance to find the ideal temperature to melt chocolate.

Animals Including Humans



Children will expand on their learning about how animals, including humans, need to get nutrition from what they eat. They will explore the different organs of the digestive system in humans and the functions of teeth in both humans and animals. Firstly, children will learn about the different types of teeth and the importance of good dental hygiene, before planning and carrying out an investigation into tooth decay using an egg as a model tooth. They will then learn about the parts and functions of individual organs of the human digestive system and carry out their own scientific demonstration of the process using everyday household items.

<p>History</p> 	<p><i>Riotous Royalty</i></p> <p>Blackbirds class will be learning about William the Conqueror's reign from 1066 onwards, how King John made himself very unpopular as monarch and why King Henry VIII married so many times. This unit also teaches the children who Queen Anne was, what Queen Victoria achieved during her reign and look at the role of the British monarchy today.</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p><i>Rainforests</i></p> <p>The children will take a closer look at the mysteries of tropical rainforests. From the layers of the forest and its animal inhabitants, to the unique climate found in the tropics. They will compare a British forest with the Amazon rainforest, and begin to explore some of the conservation issues surrounding the destruction of rainforest habitats.</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p><i>Coding with Scratch: Learning Loops</i></p> <p>The children will develop their coding skills by learning about loops. Children will use visual coding blocks within the online programming platform, Scratch, to write algorithms. They will learn about the three different sorts of loops available in Scratch: the count-controlled repeat loop, the forever loop and the repeat until loop. They will begin to recognise when to use each type of loop and will be introduced to nested loops.</p> <p>As they write algorithms in Scratch, children will have the opportunity to test their code and debug as required. After learning about all three loops, children will be encouraged to apply their knowledge and skills in a final project to create a simple catching game in Scratch. As part of their game, children will learn about using variables to create a scoring system.</p> <p><i>Programming Turtle Logo</i></p> <p>The children will learn how to create an algorithm to program a procedure. Lessons are designed to be used with online programs such as Turtle Logo/Logo Interpreter or MSWLogo. Children are reminded of the basic commands and how to repeat alongside a variable. The children are then shown how to program their own procedures, use colour and set the position of the turtle using coordinates. Finally, the children will use the arc command to create patterns using different shapes and randomly selected colours, which they are encouraged to share with the rest of the class.</p>
<p>Art</p> 	<p><i>British Art</i></p> <p>In our Art lessons the children will learn about how to use a range of media for making portraits: how to make 'sensory' boxes, create abstract 'cut ups', tell stories in pictures and write memory postcards to create quality artwork that shows progression in skills. The children will also have the opportunity to explore the work of British artists Thomas Gainsborough, Lucian Freud, Howard Hodgkin, Anish Kapoor, Paula Rego and Sonia Boyce.</p>
<p>DT</p> 	<p><i>Juggling Balls</i></p> <p>In D.T the children will be learning how to make juggling balls. They will start by exploring and evaluating different juggling balls. The children are then given a design brief, asking them to design and make a circus themed juggling ball. A hemming and overcast stitch will be introduced during this unit. The children will learn about decoration techniques; getting the chance to use tie-dye and fabric paints. Finally, when they have completed the making of their juggling ball, the children will evaluate their product against design criteria.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p><i>God, the World & Self. Personal worldview in wider world</i></p> <p>We will be learning about how people of religious / non-religious worldviews respond to poverty.</p> <p><i>Christianity</i></p> <p>The children will be learning about Easter, the concept of salvation and exploring whether forgiveness is always possible for Christians.</p>
<p>French</p> 	<p><i>Going Shopping</i></p> <p>In French this term, the children will learn the vocabulary for fruit, vegetables and clothes. They will learn the key phrases for asking the questions needed when going shopping. They will take on the roles of shoppers and shopkeepers.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p><i>Building, Around the World, Ancient Worlds and Singing Spanish</i></p> <p>Through the units above, the children will learn about different music textures; explore pentatonic melodies and syncopated rhythms; explore 20th century minimalist music and compose music using a layered pyramid structure; and explore part-singing and accompaniments in contrasting songs.</p>

<p>PSHE</p> 	<p>Safety First: The children will consider what it means to take responsibility for their own safety. This will include the decisions they make and how they can stand up to peer pressure in a range of situations. They will learn about everyday risks, hazards and dangers and what to do in risky or dangerous situations. The children will also learn about road safety and dangerous substances; drugs (including medicines), cigarettes and alcohol. They will look at e-Safety, considering what should never be shared and how to report any concerns about online incidents.</p> <p>VIPs (Very Important Persons): The children will look at friendships, how friendships are formed and maintained, and the qualities of a good friend. They will then move on to explore disputes and bullying and will address strategies for coping with each of these.</p>
<p>PE</p>  	<p>Indoor P.E. days are on Mondays and Outdoor P.E. is on a Tuesday.</p> <p>Circuit Training (These sessions will be led by a Sport's Coach) and Dance</p> <p>The children will explore different types of exercise, participating in a range of activities that focus on the upper body, lower body and core muscles. They will learn about aerobic and anaerobic exercise and will be asked to continually consider the benefits gained through participating in these. The Dance sessions will be based around a unit of work titled Carnival of the Animals.</p> <p>Hockey and Badminton</p> <p>In hockey, the children will learn how to pass, receive and travel with the ball as well as tackle and shoot. They will develop their understanding of the principles of attacking and defending in invasion games. In badminton, the children will learn a variety of different net and wall techniques. They will learn to put together racket skills, footwork steps and attack and defence skills to use in a full match.</p> <p>On these days, the children will need to come to school dressed in their P.E. uniform: navy shorts and light blue t-shirt; navy tracksuit and light blue t-shirt. No logos or football kits. Trainers should be plain black or plain white. All long hair should be tied back and earrings should be removed.</p>
<p>Homework</p> 	<p>Maths: Maths homework will be set via Class Dojo on a Monday to be completed by the following Monday. It is so important to practise Times Tables Rockstars as this will really help your child with later Maths topics of Fractions, Perimeter, Money and Time. Our aim is to improve instant recall of key multiplication and related division facts.</p> <p>English: English homework will be set via Class Dojo on a Monday to be completed by the following Monday. We ask that the children also engage frequently with Spelling Shed to practise their spellings.</p> <p>Reading: At Weston, we encourage children to develop a lifelong love for reading. We ask for children to read regularly at home to adults and to themselves. Reading is fundamental to the wider academic and personal development of children and the need for children to read widely from a broad and challenging range of texts is crucial. Children will be able to select from or will be provided with quality texts appropriate for their age and ability.</p>