



Great Whelnetham CE Primary School
Stanningfield Road, Great Whelnetham, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 0UA
(01284) 386203
Executive Head Teacher – Mr Marc Gilbert
Head of School – Miss Nicky Tyler
office@greatwhelnethamprimary.org.uk
Website: www.greatwhelnethamprimary.co.uk

Swans Newsletter – Summer Term 1, 2026

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a great Easter and enjoyed some of the fabulous spring weather and valuable time together. Welcome back to another exciting and important half term in Year 6. I would appreciate your support to **try and ensure full attendance for all the children**, except where unavoidable, so that they don't miss any of the important revision and preparation that we will be doing.

We will of course be recapping key areas of the curriculum in Maths and Grammar as well as sharpening up our speed-reading and question answering strategies in Reading. However, on top of this there are lots of exciting and interesting learning and fun activities to be looking forward to...

This half term the 3-week blocks that I will teach to Year 6 are on **DT** and **PSHE**. In DT we will be learning batik techniques for textile design and will soon be using these to make our own dyed cotton cushion covers inspired by the indigenous wildlife of Java, the home of batik. We will use some equipment that the school has invested in to heat wax and apply it to the fabric with traditional craft tools. Once the designs have been applied and dyed, the fabric will then be sewn to produce the finished cushion cover, which the children will be able to bring home.

The **PSHE** this term is centred on puberty and relationships, with 2 specific sessions on Sex and Relationships Education – a separate letter with details of these sessions will be sent out in the next couple of weeks.

Our **Science** topic will be 'Living Things and Their Habitats', focussing on classifying animals and plants and looking at their lifecycles. This links nicely with our PSHE. In **RE** lessons this half term we are looking at Buddhism and the Triple Refuge, which provides us with another excellent opportunity to consider how different world religions guide their followers.

Regular reading of high quality, age-appropriate books in the run up to SATs will still be very beneficial to your child – please quiz them about what they read, asking about the plot, the characters and what they think is going to happen next. Happy reading.

Our **P.E.** will now be on Thursday afternoons as we start the **Swimming** lessons from Thursday 23th April through to July. Please ensure your child has their costume, hat and towel with them each week to avoid any last-minute panics.

Good luck Year 6 – I'm sure you will all be amazing!

Kind regards,

Mr Sharp

Great Whelnetham Church of England Primary School is part of the All Saints Schools Trust.

A charitable company limited by guarantee.

Registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 11216388