Great Whelnetham CE Primary School
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Swans Newsletter - Autumn Term 2, 2026

Dear Parents,

As this half term progresses in Swans, there are plenty of exciting things to enjoy as we head towards Christmas.

This half term the 3-week blocks that I will teach are on ***Geography*** and ***Music.*** In ***Geography*** our topic is called 'Angry Earth' and is all about volcanoes and earthquakes. We will become experts on how volcanoes are formed, the different types of volcano, the vocabulary we can use to describe their different parts and the layers of the Earth. We will evaluate whether living near a volcano can sometimes be a good thing for people and will imagine what it is like to experience a huge eruption. We will see how earthquakes are measured, how to survive one and find out what is meant by the 'Ring of Fire'. In ***Music*** we will be doing a range of activities based around the song 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams, as well as learning and performing Christmas Carols.

In ***Maths*** we will be building the children's confidence with fractions and look at units of measurement, both metric and Imperial. Support from home would be greatly appreciated with **times tables**, using the White Rose App, Hit the Button or the BBC Supermovers songs.

In ***English*** we are writing a protest poem about an issue that really means something to us personally, thinking about big issues like war or the environment, or things closer to home like school, litter or shopping habits. We will perform some of these to the rest of the class or maybe the school in a collective worship. We will then work on a personal writing project to give the children some freedom to write in a way that appeals to them.

Our ***Guided Reading*** will explore various fiction and non-fiction texts and we will continue reading 'Holes' by Louis Sachar as a class book. A reminder that children are expected to read at home daily, for around 20 minutes, **recording this in their Planners**, and parents should please **sign once a week** to confirm this. I would really appreciate your support with reinforcing this most beneficial habit - which helps with so many aspects of our learning. Happy reading.

Our Forest Schools sessions with Mrs Lloyd continue on Thursday mornings through to Christmas, with extra lunchtime PE on Monday and Thursday, so please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school on these days. There will continue to be 2 sets of ***Home Learning*** each week. Maths will go out on Tuesday and needs to be back in on Thursday; English/Topic will go out on Friday to be handed in the following Tuesday. ***Spellings*** will go out on Friday and be tested the following week.

I am always available to discuss your child's learning or anything else that is important to you.

Kind regards,

Mr Sharp