



# Curriculum Information

**Willow, Chestnut & Maple  
Autumn (2) Term 2019**



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[www.swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk](http://www.swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk)

## Let's Get Connected

### **Our topics for this half term are ...**

**Science (Circuits and Conductors)** - Children will learn to investigate circuits and their different components, and will predict whether a given circuit will work. They will learn about conductors and insulators and use this knowledge to create switches to complete a circuit. They will begin to recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors. They will gain plenty of hands-on experience creating and testing circuits and switches.

**Science (Sound)** - Children will learn how sounds are made and associate them with vibration. They will learn that sounds travel and get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases. They will gain experience of this through a variety of exciting experiments both in and out of the classroom.

**DT (an Alarmed Treasure Box)** - Children will generate ideas & designs for a treasure box and then progress to selecting appropriate tools and equipment for making their chosen designs. They will be challenged to include an alarm to protect their treasure in the form of a simple circuit with a switch. To finish the design process, they will then reflect on the progress of their work, identifying ways in which they could improve their treasure box.

**Computing (MaKey MaKey)** - Children will design and make a human drum machine or piano using MaKey MaKeys where they are the conductor that completes the circuit. They will need knowledge of circuits and conductors as well as an understanding of using software and hardware to achieve a given goal.

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**Other subjects:**

**P.E. – Rugby and Yoga**

Children will develop their flexibility, strength, control and balance through yoga. They will also play a competitive game and apply basic principles for attacking and defending. They will use running, throwing and catching in isolation and in combination.

**R.E. – Christianity: Festivals and Celebrations (Christmas)**

Children will learn about the events leading up to Christmas, that Christmas celebrates Jesus' birth and know how and why Christians celebrate Christmas. Children will learn the signs and symbols associated with Advent and Christmas, as well as learning that different Christians celebrate Christmas in different ways.

**P.S.H.E. – Health and Wellbeing: Keeping Safe**

Children will learn that there are basic human rights shared by all peoples and all societies yet they still have their own special rights set out by the United Nations. They will look at how rules and laws that are designed to protect them and others are both made and enforced, and why different rules are needed in different situations. Children will also learn how to assess and manage risks to health and how to keep themselves and others safe as well as how to identify and access help, advice and support.

**French – Classroom Instructions and Greetings**

Children will learn basic classroom instructions and will be able to respond to instructions they are given in French. Children will also learn how to introduce themselves and politely ask how their friends and others are feeling.



## **Music – Christmas production**

Children will perform in both solo and group contexts using their voices with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression as well as listening with attention to detail and developing their aural memory.



**English:** - **Information and Explanation Texts** (*Linked to Science work*)  
- **Performance Poetry and Shape Poetry**

English involves the development of speaking and listening, drama, reading, comprehension, grammar and writing skills. Children will have a variety of opportunities to develop and demonstrate mastery within their reading and comprehension both in the classroom and during weekly guided reading sessions. They will also be able to apply their skills across other areas of the curriculum during their topic work.

During their English lessons, children will be working from cross curricular units of work, each of which will last between 2-4 weeks. Each term, children will experience a range of narrative, non-fiction and poetry texts.

## **Mathematics:**

Children will develop and demonstrate mastery in their knowledge, skills and understanding within key areas in Mathematics: number and place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions, measure, properties of shape (geometry) and statistics. The children's ability to 'reason' will be developed throughout all of their mathematical work as they are encouraged to explain how they have reached solutions to problems.

## **Homework & Spellings**

**Weekly Tasks:** Every Monday, your child will be set either a piece of English or Maths homework. They will have until the following Monday to complete it. Their homework tasks may be written pieces or online tasks from Sumdog or School360 and they will be based upon what they have been learning in class in order to consolidate their new knowledge, skills and understanding.

**Spellings:** Spellings will be set and tested each Monday

**Times Table Rockstars:** Children will be tested on their times table and associated division facts knowledge three times a week.

**Reading:** Guided Reading will take place on a weekly basis (Willow: Wednesday / Chestnut: Friday / Maple: Thursday).  
\*\*Please ensure that you and your child comment in their reading record on a regular basis.

Also, it is important that your child reads a range of literature (magazines, books, newspapers) for at least one hour per week so please encourage them to use both the school library and local library.

## **Additional Information:**

**Wellies:** We continue to ask all children to bring a pair of wellies to school for our outdoor learning adventures as well as playtimes. Please ensure that wellies are clearly labelled with your child's name.

**Homework and Spellings:** Specific information about your child's homework and spellings can be found on their class page on the school website (<http://www.swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk/website>). The class teacher will update this each week with the latest spellings and homework. Your child has been given a spelling record book, please ensure that this is in school every Monday so that they can copy their new spellings for the week.

**Water Bottles:** Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle with them every day so that they can have a drink during the day; particularly after breaks and after PE lessons.

**Plimsolls:** If your child's PE lesson is indoors, they need to wear plimsolls in the school hall or go barefoot with no socks / tights or leggings.

**PE Kits:** This half term, children in Years 3 and 4 will not be swimming at Willowburn, but will be having a PE lesson on a Tuesday afternoon. Please ensure that your child has their indoor and outdoor PE kit in with them every day in case of timetable changes.

## **School Closures**

In the event of a school closure, there are games, activities and worksheets for all subjects available to help your child on our virtual learning platform, School360, and some of the best (j2e, IR and Frog Play) can be found in Resources. The BBC also has a range of age-appropriate activities for most areas of the National Curriculum, or children can hone their coding skills on Scratch (<https://scratch.mit.edu/>).