

Key Stage 2 Newsletter

General

It's great to see everyone back after the holidays. It's also great to see all the enthusiasm and we look forward to all that we will achieve in the new school year.

English

In Giraffe class we will be studying a novel by Marcus Sedgwick called Floodland. We will focus on our understanding of the text, improving vocabulary and writing letters, discussions and narratives. We will also be working hard on our comprehension, grammar and spelling skills.

In Tiger class we will be studying a novel called Holes by Louis Sachar. The children will focus on building key skills in grammar, punctuation, comprehension and vocabulary. They will also be creating letters, diary entries, brochures advertisements and other persuasive texts.

In Meerkat class we are studying a book called Rainforest Calling which is linked to our Geography topic. We will be discussing deforestation and writing a persuasive text. We will also use similes to describe the animals and plants in the rainforest.

In Dolphin class we are starting the year with a unit on poetry looking at poetic features, particularly personification. Later in the term, we will create a non-chronological report based on volcanoes. The children will focus on building and extending their vocabulary using dictionaries and a thesaurus.

Maths

In Giraffe class we are beginning the year by working on place value where the children will read and write numbers to 10 000 000, order whole numbers and decimals and work with negative numbers in context. We will also be using diagrams to solve problems.

In Tiger class we will start by working on place value. The children will read, write, order and compare numbers to at least 1,000 000 and determine the value of each digit. They will interpret negative numbers in context and solve practical problems to do with the concepts covered.

In Meerkat class we will start the year with a unit of work on place value: reading, ordering and using numbers up to 10,000 as well as learning about Roman numerals and negative numbers. We will then move on to addition and subtraction - perfecting both mental and written methods to solve a range of problems.

In Dolphin class we are starting the year with a two-week unit of work on number and place value where the children will learn to read, order, represent and partition numbers to 1000. We will then spend the next two weeks focusing on addition and subtraction using resources at first then using a formal written method.

For all of Key stage 2 work on times tables and the related division facts will be continuing this term. Children should practice these regularly to become fluent and be able to recall them confidently.

Geography

In Giraffe class our *Geography* topic for this term is a Local Study. We will be studying our local area, Burham, looking at economic activity, land use, settlements the climate, the local river and hills. To do this we will go on several field trips and use the eight points of the compass to locate places.

In Tiger class our *Geography* topic for term 1 is The Grand Canyon. We will be learning about how it was formed, the different biomes, the impact of human behaviour on its environment and its human, physical geographic features.

In Meerkat class our topic for term 1 is Rainforests. They will be learning about the physical geography of the rainforests, including the layers, functions of the plants and the types of animals that live there.

In Dolphin Class our *Geography* topic, children will learn about volcanoes. How they form, erupt and where in the world they are located.

P.E. days

Giraffe class have P.E. on Thursdays and Fridays.

Tiger class have P.E. lessons on Thursdays and Fridays.

Meerkat Class have P.E. lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Dolphin class have P.E. on a Mondays and Thursdays.

Homework

Homework will be posted on Seesaw on a Monday and will need to be uploaded to Seesaw by the following Monday. Homework will usually consist of a times tables and a spelling activity. At the start of each new term, the first two weeks' homework will continue to be a research project related to the *Geography* or *History* topic. It is also expected that children will continue to practise their year groups' times' tables and spellings for the termly test.

Reminders

All children must wear their P.E. kit to school on their designated PE day.

Children also need to bring in everyday their own blue pen (no biros or equivalent please), green pen, pencil, glue stick, ruler, scissors, pencil sharpener, eraser and 12 colouring pencils.

All children need to bring in their own water bottle (no fizzy drinks or juices).

Children will bring their reading books home every day with the expectation that they will read at home with an adult if required (if your child is a competent reader, please discuss their book with them). Children need their books in school every day as daily silent reading takes place in the classroom.

Thank you.