

Key Stage 2 Newsletter

General

We would like to welcome the children back after the holiday. We hope this term is an exciting and productive one and we are looking forward to welcoming you all to watch our Christmas Productions in person this year!

English

In Giraffe class we will be studying the David Weisman book, Tuesday, and learning how to write reports with reported speech. We will study the narrative poem, The Highwayman, learn how to write a balanced discussion text and study There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom - a book by Louis Sachar. We will also continue working hard on our comprehension, grammar and spelling skills.

In Tiger class we will be studying an Anglo-Saxon Legend entitled 'Robin Hood and the Golden Arrow' by Geraldine McCaughrean.' We will be learning the meaning of new vocabulary introduced in the text and attempt to use them correctly in our writing. We will also be using various techniques to help us describe settings, drama to help us understand a parody, and finally apply all that we have learnt in writing another episode of the story from a different point of view. We will continue to work on improving our comprehension, grammar, spelling and handwriting.

In Meerkat class we will be studying the book I Was A Rat by Philip Pullman. The children will write character and setting descriptions and use their imagination to continue the story. The children will be learning some different grammar and punctuation techniques such as including prepositions, subordinate clauses and verb openers.

In Dolphin class we will be looking at the story 'The First Drawing'. The children will have the opportunity to write a diary entry and to create a setting from the Stone age.

Maths

In Giraffe class we will be working on multiplication and division, including long division; we will be learning about fractions (equivalence and finding fractions of quantities) and learning about position and direction (coordinates and translations). We will be developing our arithmetic skills and solving problems linked to the concepts covered.

Tiger class will be working on multiplication and division. This includes learning how to find factors and multiples, and square and cubed numbers. We will continue to apply what we have learnt in our problem solving and reasoning tasks in order to develop deeper learning. It is imperative that the children continue to learn their times tables as this is a prerequisite for success in this area of study.

Meerkat class have started the term with a unit of work on multiplication and division, starting with mental methods and moving on to learning short multiplication and division methods. We are applying the skills we are learning to solving a range of problems.

Dolphin class have been working on some of our times tables and applying these for problems both multiplication and division.

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, in preparation for a termly times tables test.

History

In Giraffe class we will be learning about Crime and Punishment. We will use extracts from historical fiction to identify and explore aspects of crime and punishment in that era, describe features and changes in crime and punishment in Britain in the Roman, Anglo-Saxon, Viking, medieval, Tudor, early modern period, Victorian and the modern day and think about how aspects of crime and punishment changed and evolved in Britain since the Roman period. As part of this topic we will be visiting the Tower of London to take part in a Crime and Punishment workshop.

Tiger class will be learning about the history of the Anglo-Saxons vs the Vikings. This will include a visit to Kent Life Heritage Farm Park where we will take part in various Anglo-Saxon workshops. We will use maps and Anglo-Saxon chronicles to find out about the past and compare and contrast what life was like for Anglo-Saxons before the arrival of the Vikings. We will also learn about certain battles, the role of lords, squires and monarchs, and about castles and their importance as fortresses.

In Meerkat class we will be introducing our topic on Ancient Civilizations. Some of the things we will be focusing on are the different writing systems, the discovery of maths and buildings.

Dolphin class will be looking at Stone Age to Iron Age. Learning about the tools and how these developed as well as the change in settlements.

P.E. days this Term

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

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

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

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

Please make sure the children are inappropriate PE kit for the weather this term and in appropriate colours - plain black, burgundy or grey.

Homework

Homework will be sent out by email or 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 terms the first week/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 biro or equivalent please), green pen (this can be a biro), 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.