

Key Stage 2 Newsletter

General

We would like to welcome all children back after the holidays and hope that a good summer was had by all. We look forward to all that we will achieve in the new school year.

English

In Giraffe class we will be studying the Victorian novel 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. We will focus on story-telling and writing in role. We will also be looking at instructional, report and journalistic writing and working hard on our comprehension, grammar and spelling skills.

In Tiger class we will be starting with a unit of work on myths and legends. The children will analyse the importance of different characters and examine the role of the narrator as a story teller. The differences between oral and written story telling will be explored and used to support the children's own writing. We will also be building key skills in grammar, punctuation, comprehension and spelling.

In Meerkat class we will be starting with a unit of work on instructional texts - following and evaluating instructions before having a go at writing some ourselves. We will then move onto a narrative unit focusing on Greek myths. In our SPAG lessons (spelling, punctuation and grammar) we will be revising adverbs, speech punctuation and paragraphs as well as learning about fronted adverbials.

In Dolphin class we are starting the year with a unit on instructional texts where the children will be creating instructions for a monster soup as well as a range of other delicious recipes. After this, we will begin a narrative unit based on fairy tales. The children will focus on Little Red Riding Hood and will build up to writing their own alternative version of this classic tale.

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, with a particular focus on using the column 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. Children shall have a weekly times tables test on a Monday morning where they will aim to meet their current target.

Creative Curriculum

In Giraffe class our topic for the next two terms is the Victorians. We will study Queen Victoria, inventions, the factories and workhouses, crime and punishment, Victorian schools and how the Victorians celebrated Christmas. We have an outing to Kent Life in October to take part in a Victorians Day!

In Tiger class our topic is the Tudors. We will be studying events and life in Tudor times through art and design projects. We have an outing to the theatre in term 1 to see Horrible Histories!

In Meerkat class our topic for term 1 is Ancient Greece. The children will learn about life in ancient Greece, including gods and myths as well as using their art and craft skills to create some ancient Greek artefacts.

In Dolphin Class our topic will be Ancient Egypt up until Christmas. The children will learn about the famous pyramids and how they were made. We will also learn about mummification, death masks and the importance of the River Nile.

P.E. days

Giraffe class usually have P.E. on a Wednesday and Friday.

Tiger class have P.E. lessons on a Thursday and Friday. However, this term they will be swimming on a Monday morning, which will replace the Thursday lesson.

Meerkat Class have P.E. lessons on a Tuesday and Wednesday.

Dolphin class have P.E. on a Monday and Tuesday.

(For future reference, year 6 will be swimming during term 2, year 4 during term 3 and year 3 during term 4).

Homework

Homework will be given out on a Wednesday to be handed in 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 creative curriculum. 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 have a fully labelled P.E. kit at school at all times.

Children also need their own pen, pencil, glue stick and art apron which also need to be kept in school at all times.

In addition, as there is no water fountain in the juniors, all children need their own water bottle.

Children will bring their reading books home every day with the expectation that they will read at home with an adult if required. Children need their books in school every day as daily silent reading takes place in the classroom.

This year we will continue to award Class Captains every Friday in our Celebration Assembly. Children need to show a positive attitude to learning and kindness to others throughout the week to be awarded the honour of being Class Captain.

Thank you.