

Dear Parents and Carers,

Information for parents in Earth Class
Autumn 2023 - Term 2

Welcome back to a new term in Earth class. We do hope you had a lovely half-term break. Your children have had a super return to school and are already so busy this week, with learning opportunities ranging from creating African animal sound sequences to relief printing. Below is a summary of some of the key points for term 2. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

Reading Records

As with last term, we are encouraging all children to bring in their book bags and reading record with them each day. This assists with the changing of books and reading with the children. Thank you for your assistance with this. Please do write any comments about their reading at home in the reading record books.

Reading practice book

If your child is currently reading Little Wandle books they will change their book every Friday. Please ensure your child returns their Little Wandle book every Friday.

If your child is reading a coloured bookband book, your child is able to change this as often as they need to. Please ensure your child returns the bookband book before they take a new one.

We are so excited to be visiting the new library this term. Your child will be choosing a **sharing book** every **Friday** from the library. Please ensure your child brings back their library book each week in order for them to change this regularly.

PE

Our **PE days** are **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** so please ensure your child is wearing the correct PE kit on these days. Children should come to school wearing their PE kits on these days and will be in the kit the whole day. As we are entering Autumn, please provide your child with jogging bottoms and a waterproof jacket.

Values

Each term we focus on one of our school values in class and through our Collective Acts of Worship. This term, we will be focussing on **Friendship and Respect**, with a particular focus on Respect linked to the following verse from Romans 12 v 10 - "Love one another warmly as Christian brothers and sisters, and be eager to show respect for one another."

Children displaying these values will be rewarded in class through our house point system and in our weekly Celebration Act of Collective Worship on a Friday morning.

HOME LEARNING

In Earth class home learning should be completed nightly to build on core skills and help with their progression in Maths, Reading and Writing. 20 minutes each day should be spent on Reading, Maths practice and Spelling practice. Most of these activities are done remotely and the children will be given access to certain websites with a username and password. These are glued in the front of their reading records.

Activity	Information
Daily Reading	10 minutes - 3 times a week with an adult, using a Phonics reading book or colour-band book. Please sign the reading record every time you hear your child read at home.
Daily number bonds or Times table practice	5 minutes - Times Table Rockstars website with set levels to practise. Use login details to access and complete.

Daily spelling practice	5 minutes - Using the Spelling Shed website with a specific set of words each week. Use login details to access and complete. Look at the EdShed login.
Maths Activity (once a week)	15 minutes - Alternate between MyMaths and TTRS or worksheets. These will be set by the teacher. This will be set every Wednesday.

Spelling

Weekly spellings will be given electronically on a Friday using the website Spelling Shed. Your login for this is stuck in to your child's Reading Record (EdShed). Your child will be set an assignment and learning will take place through a game-like format that will help build your child's confidence in spelling. Earth class will be competing against the rest of the school to get as many points as they can, earning points each time they play.

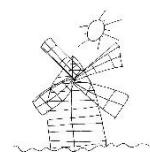
Maths (MyMaths and Times Table Rock Stars)

To help support the learning of Maths in class, your child has access to the Times Table Rock Stars website. Times Table Rock Stars is a website and app which allows children to challenge themselves and others on times tables. We will also use this in class from time to time to teach the children the different functions the website has to support times table learning.

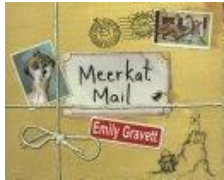

I hope that this newsletter provides you with the relevant information to help support your child with their learning this term. If you have any questions or queries with homework please don't hesitate to contact us or encourage your child to speak to us in class. If you would like to speak to us remember that you can catch us at the end of the day for a brief chat or email the school office to arrange a meeting.


We look forward to a fun beginning to this school year and getting to know all the children of Earth class.

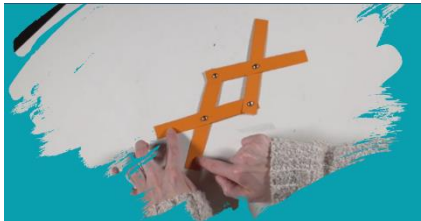
Mrs Gordon and Mrs Smith



Earth Class Curriculum Information for Term 2

Subject	To be covered
English	<p>In English this term we will focus on both fiction and non-fiction pieces of text.</p> <p>The non-fiction piece will be linked with our Geography topic about hot and cold places. The children will write a non-chronological report about a meerkat, an animal indigenous to South Africa, who enjoys the heat of where he lives. They will be inspired by the book, Meerkat Mail.</p> <p>Our fiction piece will be an exciting, magical narrative linked with the upcoming Maths Week England. Inspiring us with this writing, will be the story of Morgan and the Magical Maths Underpants. In this piece of writing, we will search for features of a magical story, such as alliteration, similes and onomatopoeia. We will also use exclamation marks.</p>  
Maths	<p>In Maths, Year 2 will be continuing our unit of work on Addition and Subtraction. They will be learning the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding and subtracting to and from a 10 • Adding and subtracting across the tens barrier • Subtracting a 1-digit number from a 2-digit number (across the tens barrier) • Finding 10 more and less than a number • Adding and subtracting 10s

	<p>The children will end the term with a unit of work on Shape. They will be learning the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognising 2D and 3D shapes • Learning about the properties of shapes such as the number of sides, vertices, their lines of symmetry, number of faces and edges • Drawing 2D shapes • Finding lines of symmetry and using them to complete shapes • Sorting 2D and 3D shapes • Making patterns with 2D and 3D shapes
Science	<p>This term in Science the children will be learning about Living Things: Microhabitats. The pupils will learn to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and name a variety of plants and animals. • Recall that minibeasts live in microhabitats. • Describe microhabitats and their conditions. • Describe how microhabitats provide for the basic needs of animals and plants. • Describe the job role of a botanist. <p>When working scientifically, pupils will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group minibeasts and create simple classification keys. • Ask questions and recognise that they can be answered in different ways. • Gather and record data and use it to answer questions. • Plan what observations to make in an experiment. • Order the steps of a method. • Describe the appearance of flowering plants. • Use an identification chart to name flowering plants.
Geography	<p>This term the children will be answering the enquiry question: Would you prefer to live in a hot or a cold place? As part of this enquiry the children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name and locate the seven continents on a world map. • Locate the North and the South Poles on a world map. • Locate the Equator on a world map. • Describe some similarities and differences between the UK and Kenya. • Investigate the weather, writing about it using key vocabulary and explaining whether they live in a hot or cold place. • Recognise the features of hot and cold places. • Locate some countries with hot or cold climates on a world map.
RE	<p>This term, our question is 'Why is Christmas so important to Christians?' The children will be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exploring how the birth of Jesus was linked with incarnation • finding out how Christians use the Nativity story in churches and at home • performing in St Peter's Nativity • understanding what special gifts someone has and the special gifts that were given to Jesus at his birth • exploring how Christians show giving at Christmas time 

DT	<p>In DT, this term, we will be exploring Mechanics. Through their understanding of pivots, levers and linkages, the children will be designing and making a moving animal.</p> 
P.E.	<p>This term our PE days are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. PE kits are expected to be worn on these days.</p> <p>This term, Mrs Gordon will be teaching Dance on Tuesdays.</p> <p>Mrs Smith will be teaching Invasion Games on Thursdays.</p>
P.S.H.E.	<p>This term we will be exploring and celebrating how we are all different in Year 2 using the SCARF (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience, Friendship) approach to teaching P.S.H.E.</p> <p>UNIT 2: Valuing Difference</p> <p>The children will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes us who we are? • My special people • How do we make others feel? • When someone is feeling left out • An act of kindness • Solve the problem <p>Click this link for activities to support your child with this:</p> <p>https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/family-scarf/scarf-at-home/valuing-difference</p>
Computing	<p>This term our focus of learning is Creating Media - Digital Photography. Learners will learn to recognise that different devices can be used to capture photographs and will gain experience capturing, editing, and improving photos. Finally, they will use this knowledge to recognise that images they see may not be real.</p>