

Year Two Newsletter

Term 3 Achievements

Wow, what a wonderful term we have had looking at different explorers. You have all engaged so well with the topic this term and impressed us so much with the outcomes. From your incredible rocket designs on TinkerKad, to the brilliant work with money in maths too! The highlight of this term was our trip to the National Space Centre in Leicester where we got to explore space through a visit to the planetarium, climbed up a rocket and researched what life is like as an astronaut!

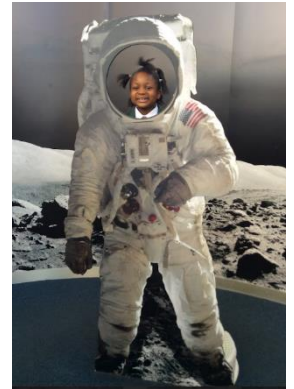


Literacy

This term our class text will be 'How the camel got his hump' based on the tale by Rudyard Kipling from his collection of 'Just so stories'. We will be exploring the character flaw in this story and discussing the rights and wrongs that go with it, thinking about actions and consequences in our own lives. Our Talk 4 Reading book this term is 'if you ever want to bring an alligator to school... don't.' We will be looking at inference of characters' feelings as well as discussing the actions of a character and whether we think they are morally right.

Ideas for at home: Find other similar stories by Rudyard Kipling in his collection of 'Just so stories' like, 'How the Rhinoceros got his skin' and 'How the leopard got his spots'. Read them together and discuss how they are similar and different to our class text.

Handwriting along with presentation are our whole school focus. We are having a big push on handwriting. Help your child by showing them how to form letters correctly, including in their homework books.



Numeracy

This term we will be looking at fractions as well as length and measurement. We will be consolidating our knowledge of adding and subtracting two digit numbers using column addition and column subtraction. We will be focusing on understanding and working out halves and quarters, using and recognising what each fraction symbol represents such as $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$.

Ideas for at home: Can you learn your ten, two and five times table? You might even learn your 3s? Don't forget you can use the PiXL append Times Tables Rockstars to help with this! And now you can use Numbots too! Numbots is great for practicing subsidising, number bonds and ensuring you are confident with your numbers to 20.

PE

The children have two PE sessions a week. Outdoor PE is Wednesday's for Redwood class and Friday's for Maple. We alternate so Redwood have indoor PE on a Friday with Maple having it indoors on a Wednesday. We do our best to stick to these days but sometimes they have to change at the last minute. To help us out, please could the children's PE kits be in school all week. One session will be outside each week, so please ensure your child has black tracksuit trousers and a black plain jumper especially as the weather gets colder. This term we will be learning all about dance and sequencing movements and looking at dodging skills, through games such as dodgeball.

At home: PE kit should be a white t-shirt, black coloured shorts, black tracksuit trousers, black jumper and trainers or plimsolls. Make sure all their kit is labelled with clearly and is kept in a named bag in a box. Please also ensure jewellery isn't worn on PE days.

Creative Curriculum

Our focus this term will be linked to our topic question 'How can we prove that all creatures' needs are different?' Our afternoons will primarily have a science focus where we will look at the differences and similarities between humans and establish what humans need to survive as well as looking at a basic human lifecycle. We will then move on to looking at the similarities and differences between humans and animals, and begin to look at the lifecycle of certain animals, will link to our literacy explanation text.

E – Safety

Our main focus in computer safety this term is knowing how to use an internet search engine and understand how to deal with pop ups safely. We will do work on this in school and discuss different scenarios with the children where they might face this. Please make sure you always monitor what your child is doing online.

Reminders and dates

Uniform: Please make sure that all new uniform is clearly labelled in case it is misplaced. That way it can be returned to the correct class as soon as it is located.

Website: Remember to check the class pages regularly for newsletters, texts, updates and photos from work in class.

Homework: This will be **sent home** with a reading book every **Friday** and is **due** in on the **Thursday** of the week after. **Reading:** Remember to read your book daily and once you have completed the quiz on Accelerated Reader at home, we will change your book for you.

Dates

- Monday 19th February – Term 4 starts
- Thursday 7th March – World Book Day
- Monday 11th March – KS1 (Year 1 & 2) Bedtime Stories
- Friday 8th March – Mother's Day Market (8:15 – 9:45am)
- Tuesday 19th & Thursday 21st – Parents Evening
- Wednesday 20th March – Class photos
- Thursday 28th March – Term 4 ends
- Monday 15th April – Term 5 starts

Here is a copy of our class text

How the camel got its hump

A long time ago in a place far away there was a selfish, idle camel who did not want to work. Everyday he would just eat and say humph!

On Monday morning, Horse trotted along and suggested "Camel come and trot like us". But Camel just said "Humph!" Then, Dog sprinted along with a stick in his mouth and shouted "Camel fetch and carry like us". However, Camel just said "Humph!" Finally, Ox plodded along and whispered "Camel come and plough the field like us". Unfortunately Camel just said "Humph!"

At the end of the day the King of the Desert arrived and spoke to Horse, Dog and Ox. He spoke firmly "Camel won't work so you will have to work harder." The animals were frustrated. When they were working Camel came along and laughed at them. How furious they were!

Eventually the King of the Desert appeared again and had a meeting with the animals. "Is it right for one animal to be idle and only say humph?" they complained to the King. "Certainly not, I'll go and speak to him" replied the King. Off he stomped across the desert, where he soon found the camel looking at his own reflection in a pool of water. What a lazy camel he was!

Angrily the King shouted "Why are you being so idle when the others are working hard?" "Humph!" Camel replied. "DON'T SAY THAT!" screamed the King. "Humph!" said Camel. As soon as he spoke a hump appeared on his back. "That's for being idle and just saying humph. Now you must work!" exclaimed the King angrily. Grumpily Camel trotted off to join the others. From that day on Camel has never moaned but still has his hump.