

Redwood Class Newsletter (Term 3)

Class Teacher: Ms Holloway

Class TA: Mrs Allen (mornings)

PPA cover: Mrs Hobbs (Thursday PM)

We may be nearing February but may take this opportunity to wish you a happy New Year - if I haven't seen you in person.

Term 3 is in full swing with lots to look forward to!

What are we learning this term?

English

Using the film and text of Shaun Tan's *The Lost Thing*, we will initially engage with the themes of the story and make predictions about its content. After that, we will engage with the story in order to retell the main events to one another. This then leads to a series of innovations upon the story structure and children create their own 'lost things', creating a story plan. In the final part, children write their own lost thing narratives, based upon their story plan.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVV7kxQd0Y>

The main outcome from this unit is to write a fantasy narrative but there will be opportunities to write Diary entries, formal letters, adverts, character and setting descriptions and non-chronological reports.

Maths

Both year groups are learning to order, compare, add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers. Please use white rose home learning videos and BBC Bitesize to support learning at home. When finding equivalent fractions, it helps if pupils know and have instant recall of multiplication facts and common multiples.

Year 5

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning?year=year-5-new&term=autumn>

Year 6

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning?year=year-6-new&term=autumn>

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning?year=year-6-new&term=autumn>

SPAG and Reading

Please continue to listen to your read and use their reading books to identify punctuation used. Seeing examples of (and discussing the use of) colons, semi colons, dashes, commas and brackets will help pupils become better writers.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/year/zncsscw>

PE

Although PE has been timetabled for Wednesday and Friday please ensure that PE kit remains in school for the entire week.

We are very much enjoying the lead up to the dance festival. All pupils are working well together, many are contributing their ideas. If you haven't already done so, please return the permission slip ASAP.

Topics this term

Geography

In this unit, the children will find out more about why rivers are so important to the towns and villages that have developed on their banks. By looking at the features of rivers, and the natural and human ways that rivers change over time, children will explore the life stories of rivers. Children will learn the names and locations of the major rivers of the UK and the world

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/z7w8pg8>

Science

This unit builds on the children's learning from the Rocks unit as well as the Animals including Humans and Living Things and their Habitats units. As such, it is important that children have the appropriate understanding of fossils, habitats and human development in order to grasp the concepts and ideas presented to them in these lessons. Children will learn about variation and adaptation. They will be able to explore how both Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace separately developed their theories of evolution. They will examine the scientific evidence from plants and animals that has been gathered to support the theory of evolution.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvhhvcw/articles/z9qs4qt>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6p6qp3/articles/z3wpp39>

Homework

Reading

- Children may read to an adult, or an adult may ask them about what they have read for their homework. Please sign reading records when doing so. We check reading records for at least three adult signatures on **Fridays**.
- Reading records should go home and be in school each day.

Spellings (Online via EdShed's **Spelling Shed)**

- We have a weekly spelling focus set on a Friday. Spellings will be tested on **Fridays**.
- Spellings should be practised at home by completing the weekly activities set on Spelling Shed. Extra 'paper practise' is also beneficial (however we do not need to see evidence of this).
- EdShed log in details are the same as Maths Shed and are stuck in children's reading records.
- Please see the ParentMail sent out earlier today for more information about Spelling Shed. Children will be shown how to use this in school. Please note, that there is a Spelling Shed app but this is not required.
- Log in details for Spelling Shed are *the same as Maths Shed* – find in the front of reading records.

Maths (Online via EdShed's **Maths Shed)**

- We will use Maths Shed for maths homework from this year.
- Up to two homework tasks are set on **Fridays** and due in by the following **Friday**.
- Mathematics will be used for in-school purposes this year (passwords for this have also been changed).

Times Tables

- It is part of children's homework to be practising times tables.
- Maths Shed and timestables.me.uk are great ways of practising online.