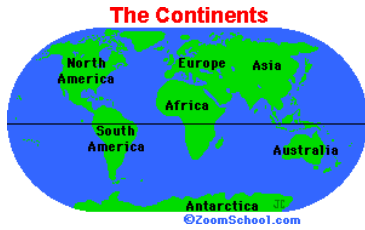


Meerkat's Marvellous Mission



Dear Parents,

Welcome back, I hope everybody had a great half term break. This term we are beginning an exciting new topic - *Meerkat's Marvellous Mission*. We will explore the different animals that can be found on each continent including Africa, Australasia and Asia. We will use clues that our class Meerkat gives us from his suitcase! The boxes below explain the areas we will be looking at and some of the work we will be doing in teacher focussed activities and group work. We are also focussing on handwriting, reading activities.

We have a new Meerkat Reading Challenge Chart in the classroom! Please record in your child's book when they read their book to you. Children that read 10 times at home to an adult get a very special Reading Meerkat Certificate! They can swap their book twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If they finish their book before that please ask them questions about the book: Or they can read you a book from home (please record this in their book)

What does the character feel like? Why?

What did you learn?

Does this remind you of anything you have done or any other books? Why does it remind you?

What do you think will happen next?

It is World Book day in week 2. The children can dress up as their favourite book character!

<p><u>Literacy -</u> Poetry Non - chronological report Storytelling and writing</p>	<p><u>Mathematics -</u> Fractions Times Tables Reasoning Shape and Space Money and coins Using mathematical vocabulary</p>	<p><u>Science - Scientific Investigation</u> Exploring birds, making bird homes and bird feeders. Predicting, measuring, planning, observation and making conclusions.</p>
<p><u>Expressive Art & Design</u> Art - Drawings of animals and animal prints Making African themed DT - Animal face masks</p>	<p><u>ICT - Handling data about favourite animals, pets and animals found in different continents.</u> Animal Top Trumps.</p>	<p><u>Physical Development -</u> Team building skills</p>
<p><u>Religious Education -</u> Exploring different feelings</p>	<p><u>Personal, Social and Emotional Development -</u></p>	<p><u>Geography - Meerkat - he is going to tell us about his travels!</u></p>

about Easter. Is Easter Happy or Sad Learning songs and preparing for Easter Service.	Our responsibilities How we treat and look after the natural environment	Equator - learn about this using globe Name the seas and the continents,
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Home Learning - Due Friday

Home Project

This term we are focusing on *Animals*. We would love the children to do a project about their favourite animal. This could be a mask, poster, powerpoint, model, booklet or painting. They can bring it in when it is complete and can share with the class. All children will have the opportunity to share this with the rest of the class.

Reading	<p>Please read with your child every evening, even if it is just for 5 minutes. We read individually with the children once a week, so it is really important that the children bring their book bags, yellow reading record and their reading book into school every day. We also have small group guided reading sessions each week.</p> <p>When reading with your child please acknowledge the fact that the book has been read by signing and dating in the comments book, or you may like to add a positive or helpful comment in the reading diary. Books are changed twice a week. This is so that the children can enjoy answering questions about the book rather than rushing through books. Please feel free to record in the record if your child has read another book in addition to the school book.</p>
Spellings and homework	<p>Every Tuesday the children will bring home their new spellings to learn. Please ensure your child learns their spellings for their spelling quiz, which takes place the following Tuesday.</p> <p>Thank you for your continued support with homework. This really is a great way for you to consolidate learning in class and a chance for you to share in your child's learning. Please ask your child to read the Year 1 and 2 Common Exception words. All children need to strive to be able to read and spell all the words correctly by the end of their year group.</p>
Maths	<p>Homework this term will be times tables focussed. Please can Year 2 learn their times tables out of order. These are recorded in their times tables books. They will be assessed every Friday. By the end of this year the aim is they know their 2, 5, 10, 3 and 4 times tables off by heart, out of order and recall answers instantly. Some wise owls may even go beyond this and learn their 6 and 7 times too!</p> <p>Year 1 and Year 2 -Every child has their own log in to the Mathletics website. The children can get Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates for doing lots of Mathletics tasks. I will print out and give to children to take home. Please let me know if you have any questions about Mathletics.</p>

Useful Websites

www.ictgames.co.uk and www.topmarks.co.uk for Literacy and Maths games.
www.phonicsplay.co.uk Phase 4 - 6 games, blending sounds and words.

Reminders

- Please can you make sure your child brings in a **water bottle** and their **book bag** each day. Please no rucksacks as these are taking up room on the pegs.
- Can the children please always have a **coat** in school as the weather can be unpredictable.
- Our PE days are **Wednesday** and every fourth Friday but PE kits should be in all week.
- Wellington Boots - Please can all children have a set of Wellies in school at all times, this is so we can use the field and outside areas when it is wet and muddy. We will be doing forest school for the whole Term 6 when we doing a Stone Age topic.

Topic website: (linked to animals)

<http://a-z-animals.com/animals/>

<http://www.kidsbiology.com/animals-for-children>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/animals/>

Key Questions

- 1) Can you recite your $\times 2$, $\times 5$, $\times 10$ times tables?
- 2) Can you talk about your favourite animal and explain why?
- 3) Can you name a continent that our Meerkat has been to?
- 4) Can you tell me which different sentences we can use and what punctuation can end a sentence?

We hope you all have lovely term supporting the children in their learning and can see how much they have learnt already. Please do not hesitate to come and speak to me if you have any questions,

Mrs Smith is our class teaching assistant.

Thank you for your support,

Miss Purcell