

Term 2 Newsletter 'Survival of the fittest?'



Dear Parents,



We hope you have had a good half term! This term, our topic is 'Survival of the fittest' and the children will be learning about the life and research of Charles Darwin. We will be developing our understanding of biography writing, poetry and description writing. We will be using a variety of texts to support our learning including Darwin's Dargons, Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species by Anna Brett and Amazing Evolution. Please could we ask you to encourage your child to design their own animal. This will be used to support a series of literacy sessions during the term.

Reading	Please read with your child at least three times a week at home and ensure that their reading record is signed and dated. A member of staff will be checking reading diaries on a Friday.
Spellings	Spelling tests are every Thursday, and your child will be tested on the spelling pattern they have learnt about that week. New spellings will be sent out every Thursday.
Maths	Maths homework will be set on a Monday and will be expected to have been completed by the Following Monday. Maths homework for Year 5 will be set using weekly 10-minute Arithmetic CPG test books. Year 6 Maths homework will be set in their CGP Arithmetic books. The children will be given a sheet outlining which pages they should complete in their CPG book for that week.
Times	Each child has a Times Table Rockstars login and should be practising their tables
Tables	(either on this website or in another way) three times a week at home.
Grammar	Grammar homework will be sent home on a Monday and your child will have one week to complete this, due in on the following Monday (the same as their Maths homework). The homework will be based on the grammar they will be learning within their literacy lessons. The children will be given a sheet outlining the pages they need to complete from their CPG workbook To help with our in-class assessments, please indicate when you have helped your child.

If your child needs further support with homework, then Miss Williams will be available during lunchtime on Friday's to support with any specific questions needed.

Helping to enrich our topics

It is always great to have items or visitors that support our topic, so if anyone has any experience or items that may help us with any of this term's theme it would enhance the children's learning.

<u>Useful Websites:</u>

https://www.nhm.ac.uk/schools/teaching-resources/key-stage-2/evolution-and-inheritance.html

https://scienceforthekids.wordpress.com/2013/03/12/what-is-evolution/https://www.theschoolrun.com/what-are-adaptation-and-evolutionhttps://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvhhvcw

Questions you could ask your child about their learning this term:

- Who was Charles Darwin? Why are we learning about him?
- Who was Mary Anning? What was her discovery?
- What does the term evolution mean?
- Who is David Attenborough?
- Why do Christians Believe Jesus was the Messiah?

<u>Reminders</u> – Please can you make sure your child brings in a water bottle each day with fresh water, ensure all jumpers are labelled and bring a coat. PE is on a Monday and Thursday for all children in Owls class. Please send your child in wearing their PE clothes, in line with school policy.

Forest school dates:

Below are the dates that Owls will have forest school

- Wednesday 23rd November
- Wednesday 25th January
- Wednesday 15th March
- Wednesday 10th May This date may change as it is during SATs week
- Wednesday 28th June

During the beginning of Term 2 and Term 3, Owls class will also be supported by Mr Morris. He is a 2^{nd} year Primary Education student who will be on placement within our class supporting the children with their learning.

Many thanks for your continued support, Miss Williams, Mr Morris and Mrs Cousens

