

What makes animals unique?

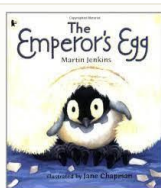
Year 1 and 2 Newsletter Term 3 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

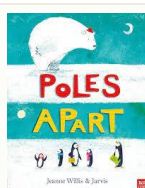
Happy New Year! We hope you had a restful and healthy Christmas break.

We are very excited that our new topic – for two half terms – will be *What makes animals unique?* We will be learning about different animals **what** they are like and **where** they live. We will also be identifying characteristics of animals and grouping these accordingly.

Some of the texts we will be using for our learning are:



Instruction writing



Non-fiction



Story writing

If you would like a learning activity to complete at home this term with your child, you could choose from one of these activities:

- Have an animal story time with your child favourite book including animals.
- Can they create an animal puppet?
- How about making a fact file for your child's favourite animal.
- Could they make a diorama with their favourite animal's habitat?
- Can they make a collage of their animal using old magazines?

The learning map attached to this newsletter outlines the areas we will be learning about and some of the work we will be doing in teacher-focussed activities and group work.

Helping to enrich our topics

It is always great to have items that support our topic, so if anyone has any items that may help us with any of the work above that we could borrow, we would love to see them. We will have a topic-based 'show and tell' weekly on a Friday, see below the slot for your child.

Week 2 Friday 12th January- Year 1 boys



Week 3 Friday 19th January – Year 2 girls

Week 4 Friday 26th January – Year 1 girls

Week 5 Friday 2nd February – Year 2 boys

'What makes animals unique?' Learning Map Term 3 2022

What are we learning this term?

<p>Literacy</p>	 <p>Instruction writing</p>	 <p>Non-fiction</p>	 <p>Story writing</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>Place Value and + -</p> 	<p>Money</p> 	<p>Statistics</p> 
<p>Science</p>	<p>Investigations</p> 	<p>Animals including humans</p> 	<p>Questioning</p> 
<p>Geography</p>		<p>Animals around the world</p> 	
<p>Music</p>	 <p>Exploring Percussion</p>		
<p>ICT</p>	<p>E-Safety</p> 		<p>Questioning</p> 
<p>PSHE</p>		<p>Hopes and dreams</p>	

DT		Clay and salt dough	
RE		Islam 	

Home Learning

Reading	<p>Please read with your child at least three times a week, even if it is just for 5 minutes. When reading with your child, please acknowledge the fact that the book has been read by <u>signing and dating in the reading record book</u>.</p> <p>During reading sessions, please discuss the story with your child and ask them questions about what they are reading. These questions will help to develop their understanding of what they are reading as comprehension and discussion are key reading skills in Year 1 and 2. Little Wandle Phonics books will be changed every Friday. If your child does not return the previous weeks book, they will not be sent home with a change of book the next week. Beyond this, children will be on a coloured reading phase and can change these as frequently as they need to.</p>
Phonics	<p>Most children in Squirrels will be sent home with a phonics homework sheet on a Monday which will share the sounds, sentences and spelling we will be covering during the week. The children can share their learning with you. There will not be a formal spelling test for Squirrels, however there will always be 5 words at the bottom of the sheet that they have learnt in school that week and it would be great to practise these at home too! Their phonics and spellings all fit in with the new reading scheme.</p> <p>Some children in Squirrels will be given tasks related to the Year 1 and 2 common exception words to practice, on a Monday. Again, there will be no formal spelling test for squirrels. However, we will be focusing on 5 words a week and it would be great to practise these at home too!</p>
Maths	<p>Maths homework will be set from a new CPG book. It will be set on a Monday and need to be returned on the following Monday. The children can bring it back in whenever they have finished it during that week and put it in the 'finished homework' box.</p>

Useful information and reminders:

- Please can you make sure your child brings in a **water bottle** and their **book bag** each day. We use their books daily so these need to be placed in a box as they come into the classroom.
- The children will need a **named coat, hat and gloves** in school as the weather starts to get colder and wetter.

- Our PE days are **Thursday and Fridays** so please send your child into school in their PE on these days.

Can we also remind you that we don't allow children to bring toys into school, this term we have had a few children upset when these have been put away during the school. It is difficult to label cuddly toys and plastic toys, we have plenty of resources in the classroom and at playtimes for the children to use, so therefore we are asking that these stay at home.

Jars:

In term 3, Squirrels class will be learning about dreams and goals in PSHE.

We would like to make dream jars with the children next week (after they were inspired by watching a clip from the BFG).

We would be grateful if you could please send your child into school with a glass jar with a lid next Tuesday (Tuesday 9th January 2024)

We hope you all have lovely term supporting the children in their learning. Please do not hesitate to come and speak to us if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Tucker, Miss Goymer and Mrs Twin.