



Term 2 Newsletter

'Survival of the Fittest?'



Dear Parents,

We hope you have had a good half term holiday! This term, our topic is **'Survival of the Fittest?'** and the children will be learning about the life and research of Charles Darwin, Mary Anning and David Attenborough, as well as Stephen Hawking. 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 Dragons, Charles Darwin's 'On the Origin of Species' by Anna Brett and Amazing Evolution.

Reading	Please read with your child at least three times a week at home and ensure that their reading record is signed and dated. Year 6 should be reading at least 45 minutes per week and Year 5 for 30 minutes.
Spellings	Spelling tests are every Tuesday and your child will be tested on the spelling pattern they have learnt about that week. Children should be practising their spellings at least twice a week and we have included a 'Spelling Menu' in their homework books with ideas on different ways to do this. We will send home the term's spellings so you have these to refer to. All spelling tests will be in the back of their homework books to allow you to support children with continued practise of any spellings they get incorrect on a test.
Maths	Maths homework will be set on a Tuesday and children will have a week to complete this. Maths homework will be set using the CPS books.
Times Tables	Each child has a Times Table Rockstars login and should be practising their tables (either on this website or in another way) three times a week at home.
Grammar	Grammar homework will be set weekly on a Tuesday. The page numbers will be sent home.
To help prepare the children for secondary school, in Year 5 and 6, all homework is expected to be completed and handed in on time. The children will complete any missing homework in school time. Nearly all children hand in their workbooks- thank you for your support with this.	

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.

Useful Websites:

- <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-evolution>
- <https://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?

Reminders – 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 Monday and Friday for all children so please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit, in line with school policy,

TRIP

We will be running a trip to **Wakehurst Place** on the **29th November**, information has been emailed today.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs Riley and Miss Taiclet



Term 2 'Survival of the fittest?' Learning Map



<p>Literacy</p>	<p>Diary writing</p>	<p>Descriptive writing-setting</p>	<p>Poetry</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>Equivalent fractions</p>	<p>Fractions</p> <p>Addition/subtracting fractions</p> $\frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6} = \frac{5}{6}$	<p>Multiplying/dividing fractions</p> <p>STEP 1 STEP 2 STEP 3</p> $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{2}{5} = \frac{3 \times 2}{4 \times 5} = \frac{6}{20}$ <p>Simplify? ←</p>
<p>Science</p>		<p>Evolution and Inheritance</p>	
<p>Art</p>		<p>Pencil drawings and landscapes</p>	
<p>History</p>	<p>How have people changed over time? Significant people in history</p>		
<p>PSHE</p>		<p>Jigsaw scheme of learning: Being me in the world</p>	
<p>Computing</p>		<p>Databases</p>	
<p>RE</p>		<p>Understanding Christianity</p> <p>Why do Christians Believe Jesus was the Messiah?</p>	
<p>French</p>		<p>School and Christmas</p>	
<p>Music</p>	<p>Evolution of Music (40000 BC - 2021)</p>	<p>Evolution of Music</p>	
<p>P.E.</p>	<p>Gymnastics</p>		