

Week beginning: 15.01.24



Dear Parents/Carers,

English - In English this week our learning will be focussed on "The Enormous Crocodile" by Roald Dahl. We will begin by making predictions about the text exploring the type of character the crocodile might be, where the story might be set and what might happen in the story. If your child hasn't yet read this text, please wait until after Monday to share it with them to allow them to make their predictions. Next, we will be spending time exploring the language used by the author and how wordplay is used to create new words linking to the characters e.g. 'grumptious'. The children will finish the week creating their own WANTED poster for the escaped crocodile showcasing their own high-level vocabulary choices and even experimenting with some wordplay themselves.

At home you could encourage your child to think of a story with good and bad characters in. What adjectives could they use to describe the bad characters? How can they really inform the reader what they are like using their word choices? How do these words compare with the vocabulary used for the good character?

Maths - In maths the children will be learning about 3D shapes. We will begin by recalling the name of 3D shapes and then exploring their properties e.g. number of faces, edges, vertices etc. We will then be challenging the children to sort the 3D shapes using different criteria e.g. flat faces, curved faces and then asking the children to think of their own criteria for sorting the shapes. At the end of the week, we will be making our own 3D shapes using art straws, lolly sticks, cocktail sticks or similar, to ensure they are secure on the number of vertices, faces and edges and the different shapes of the faces.

At home you could challenge your child to name and identify common 3D shapes and consider their properties - how many vertices does it have? How many straight/curved faces does it have? Can they use different criteria to group and sort the shapes?

History - Following on from our fabulous "Flo on the Road" workshop last week, we will be continuing to learn about Florence Nightingale as a significant figure from the past. We will be revisiting our KWL grid (what we know, what we wonder and what we learned) and seeing what questions we can now answer. We will then be learning about Florence's early life and her aspirations and dreams of being a nurse.

PSHE - In PSHE we will be continuing our topic on Dreams and Goals this week. The children will be revisiting the goals they have set and how they are working towards meeting their goal. We will be discussing the importance of perseverance, even when things are difficult.

Science - We will be continuing to learn about Animals, including humans in science. The children will be finding out about the different ways in which animals reproduce.

Computing - The children will be learning the copy, cut and paste shortcuts in 2Calculate.

Music - We will continue to focus on our new song this half term called 'I wanna play in a band.' The children will be listening to identify the rhythm on the song.

PE - In PE we will be developing our ball skills beginning with controlling the ball.

RE - We will be introducing the children to the theme in Christianity of 'What God is like for Christians.' We will begin by discussing with the children the term 'expert' and 'guide' and relating this to Florence Nightingale and how she became an expert in her field and was a 'guide' for other nurses and they followed her to make huge changes and improvements. This will support the children for next week's learning when we explore more deeply how Christians can see God as a leader or guide.

Art - We will be introducing the children to printing this half term and exploring different printing techniques. We will begin by looking at the work of Piet Mondrian and inviting them to respond to the abstract artwork. We will then focus on the use of shapes and colours to support the children in creating their own piece of artwork using shapes.

Spellings - This week we will be practising the 'ai' sound spelled 'ea' as in 'great', 'steak' and 'break.' This is the least common spelling of the 'ai' sound and is used in the middle of these words. We will then be looking at the 'j' sound spelled 'dge' and discussing with the children where this version of the sound normally appears in the word to help them decipher which spelling they need when writing independently. We will also be sharing the rule of using 'dge' after a short vowel sound e.g. 'sledge' as the 'e' is making a short sound rather than a long 'ee'. We will then look at the common exception words - cold, old, told, hold and gold and what they all have in common.

Reading - Please read with your child every night for 10 minutes and ask them questions about the book. Books will continue to be changed by the children on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Calling all Dads!...

Thank you to the one Manby Dad that has been in touch so far regarding our hopes of setting up a Boys Reading Club. We are still really keen on getting this up and running and wondered if there are any more of our amazing Manby Dads that might like to join him? Ideally this would be at the beginning or end of a lunchtime and last for 20 minutes, but there is flexibility in terms of timings - we can be flexible to suit a time that works for you. It would involve sharing and reading books together in the Library to help promote a love of reading for around 15-20 minutes. Please speak to your child's class teacher or contact us via the Office if you might be interested during the first week back. We look forward to hearing from you. 😊

Key Dates:

Saturday 20th/Sunday 21st January - FoML Active Challenge (Please see separate email sent 11.01.2024)

Monday 22nd January - RSPB Birdwatch Week (More information to follow)

Wednesday 24th January 9:30 am - Presentation for parents by National Autistic Society at Oatlands School

Thursday 25th January 9:10 - 10:00 am - Parent Voice Meeting for Class Reps

Friday 26th January Time TBC - Safeguarding Session with Miss Morris for parent volunteers

If you have any questions or concerns, regarding your child, please see your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Year 2 Team 😊