

## *Class 2 Marsham – Spring term 1 2017*

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well the start of a new year and a very important term for our year 6 children! I hope everyone had an enjoyable break.

For our theme this term we will be looking at wild animals – our key question is “Where are the wild things?” We will be investigating habitats and classification as well as finding out about the wild animals that surround us locally.

In English we will starting the term be using poetry to think about imaginary wild animals. We will go on by researching and writing our own non-chronological reports and later in the term – myths and legends. as well as this we will be using peer to peer critique to improve and hone our writing to make it even better...

Our maths work this half term will build on the work last term on efficient methods of calculation in a variety of problem solving contexts. I want to improve children’s times tables knowledge as this is so important in building mathematical fluency. There will be a test each week so any extra practise you can give your child with tables that they are unsure of will be invaluable. As before the Assertive mentoring skills sheets will come home and we would like you to spend some time each week supporting your child with questions that they are finding tricky. We are really focusing upon building good learning behaviours of resilience and having a growth mindset. If you have internet access at home please encourage your child to log on to Mathletics website (they have a username and password to login) where activities have been set up to support the concepts we will be covering in Maths.

Spellings will be taught using Read Write inc in school and there will be opportunities for you to support your children as they independently apply their new skills. Please remember to fit in three 10 minute reading slots during the week, (this needs to be recorded in their reading record) if your child is reading confidently then take some time to talk to them about the characters and plot in the story, challenge them to justify their opinions and use evidence from the text as we know this all helps build better writers.

In Science this term we will be finding out about habitats and classification as well as work on food chains. We will also be continuing to use the forest schools facilities at Dandelions outdoor nursery for a short session on a Wednesday afternoon (please send your child in with appropriate clothing for this).

In our PATHs sessions, we will be focussing on getting to know each other and building positive relationships, as well as seeing things from someone else’s point of view. PE curriculum this term will focus on gymnastics our main session will be on a Thursday afternoon (however suitable indoor and outdoor kit needs to be in school all week as the day may change) with swimming at Aylsham on a Friday morning beginning the 13<sup>th</sup> January, please encourage your child to take responsibility for remembering their own swimming kit...and its safe return home!

As with previous terms, we are carrying on the high expectations across the whole school, as this has been one of the biggest catalysts to an improvement in attitudes, behaviour and children’s progress.

Inevitably, at some point in the year you may have questions or queries, if you do, please do not hesitate to phone or come in for a chat, after school is usually best unless it is urgent. I look forward to meeting you soon.

Mr Bannister

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Maths</b>                | Children will be continuing with work on the four operations; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They will be using and applying the skills already learnt into a variety of different problem solving contexts and challenges to build fluency and reasoning. Aswell as this they will be working on investigations into shape and space, measures and decimals, fractions and percentages. |
| <b>English</b>              | In English we will begin by writing poetry and then go on to use the Talk for Writing teaching sequence to develop our understanding of different genres of writing; non-chronological reports, Myths and Legends,. Children will develop their writing with the help of peer critique in small groups.   |
| <b>Spelling and Grammar</b> | Children will be using the Read, Write Inc materials to develop their knowledge of spelling patterns and word groups in context. These materials are year group based and so children will be taught in age appropriate groups for this daily lesson.   |
| <b>Science</b>              | In Science this term we will be investigating habitats, animal classification and food chains.  |
| <b>History/ Geography</b>   | Children will look at the different habitats that are common in East Anglia specifically where they are and what wildlife they support.   |
| <b>ICT</b>                  | We will use the internet to research information to create our non-chronological reports and create presentations   |
| <b>PSHE</b>                 | There will be a continued focus upon growth mindset and developing good behaviours for learning. We will use PATHs sessions and circle time to focus upon being assertive and working together in groups collaboratively.   |
| <b>Music</b>                | We will be listening to music and working in small groups to create soundscapes that describe the journey of a grey seal to Horsey.   |
| <b>RE</b>                   | Looking at the important role that religious texts play in different religions – in particular we will be looking at the main features of the Sikh religion.  |
| <b>PE</b>                   | This term we will focus upon ball skills. Our class will also be taking part in swimming sessions again focussing upon achieving 25 metres swimming certificate.  |
| <b>Art/D&amp;T</b>          | We will focus upon art that illustrates the need to protect our local wildlife. In Design and Technology they will design and make bird feeders for wild birds. Children will have the opportunity to experiment further with watercolours and sketching.   |