



Skylarks' Newsletter - Spring Term 2023



Welcome back to school! We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas Break.

Curriculum News

This term our topic is 'Rainforests'.

Through this topic, we will introduce rainforests, what they are, where they are and who lives there! We will learn about the food resources available for the creatures and people who live in the rainforest. In addition to this, we will research arguments for and against deforestation and take part in class debates, making links between deforestation and climate change.



In maths, we will be looking at multiplication and division, length and perimeter, area, fractions and decimals.

In literacy, we will start off by looking at shape poetry and then move on to writing a persuasive advert for alternatives to plastic straws. After this, we will then work on our story writing.



Our whole class reading book for this term is 'The Girl Who Stole an Elephant' by Nizrana Farook.

With effect from Wednesday, Skylarks will be covering Monster Phonics each day. This is in place of the spelling lessons and is to help support the children with the application of their grapheme and phoneme knowledge to their writing. The weekly spellings will include words from their phonics lessons and words from the Years 3 and 4 National Curriculum spelling lists. Please feel free to look at the phonics page on our website, this will provide you with more information about what Monster Phonics is.

Reading

The children will be provided with a book from school which be can changed as often as you would like. When you share a book with your child at home, **please write a comment in the reading diary**. Please remember that children of all ages and abilities still love having a story read to them too! I will be checking the reading diaries each week, and I kindly ask that the children hand these into me each Monday.



Science - Plants / Living Things and their Habitats

Science this term is 'Plants' and then changes to 'Living Things and Their Habitats' after half term. Mrs Travis is looking forward to seeing the children begin to understand how plants survive and reproduce. Both science subjects link in very well with our Rainforests topic.

Class Library

The children can take a book from the classroom library alongside a levelled reading book, as mentioned above.



Homework

Your child will be given a piece of homework to complete each week on Class Dojo. This will be set on a **Wednesday** and a photo of the work will need to be uploaded to Dojo by the **Monday**. Please ensure your child completes their homework and hands it in on time. There may be weeks where no homework is set - this is normal and nothing to worry about.

Spellings will be sent home each Friday for them to be tested on the following Friday.

Those children who have a **Nessy** account are expected to access this at home for at least 15 minutes each week.

We also expect that the children access their **Timestables Rockstars** account for at least 15 minutes each week, outside of school, to practise their tables.

P.E.

Our P.E. day is **Wednesday**. However, please could you ensure that your child has a named kit in school from Monday to Friday in case of a change of plan. A basic **named** kit of shorts, T shirt and plimsolls is essential. A tracksuit and trainers are needed for outdoor games. Please make sure that, if your child has long hair, it is tied back and any child who wears earrings needs to have them removed/covered.



Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child brings a **named** water bottle to school **each day**. This is essential not only for preventing dehydration, but also helps the children to concentrate in class! Please continue this throughout the school year, even as the weather becomes cooler.



We are here to help...

There can be times in a child's life when personal circumstances may affect his/her learning or behaviour in school. Please be reassured that if the need arises, you are welcome to **message us on Class Dojo** or **phone the office** to arrange an appointment.

Finally, thank you in advance to the pupils and parents of Skylarks for your support.

Mrs Travis



Banham
Primary School

