



Welcome to this half terms'
Topic Information letter for
Elm and Beech Class

Miss Darlow
and Mrs Chapman



Fantastic Farming

Autumn Half Term (1)



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Numeracy:

Our key focus this half term is mainly place value- Children will be partitioning and rounding numbers. They will be learning to order, sequence and compare them. They will be representing numbers using different manipulatives such as counters, base 10 equipment and straws. Place value is the foundation for all their Numeracy work throughout the year, hence the main aim is for them to confidently identify numbers, know their worth and start to count on and back with ease.

Science - the seasons, rainfall, Plant growth

Our big theme this term is Farming, within which the children will be learning about how seeds germinate and grow and what they need to become a healthy plant. They will describe the different seasons and how they have a role in Harvest and other plant growth on the farm. We will create rain gages and measure rainfall.



Additionally, later in the term they will make bread with the company Warburtons which will

Literacy

Reading

During this half term children will read in a variety of situations. There will be shared whole class sessions, Year two will have small group guided sessions, and all will have one to one with an adult weekly as well as encouraging a love of independent reading.

Reading at home

We have recently re banded all our books and we're excited to continue to develop a love of reading with the children. They will each have a reading record and bring books home on a daily basis - please read with your child as much as you can and sign their record - we have a new reward system in both classes to celebrate their success and hope to have them progressing through the bandings brilliantly, this will help with Y2 SATs and the Year 1 phonic screening.

Writing

The children will write in the following genres; Story writing based on familiar settings as well as instructional writing linked to bread.

They will learn to improve their sentence structure, grammar and punctuation as well as continuing to work through their spellings in a weekly test.

Handwriting

We use a pen pals system in school, where they do daily letter join practise. There are many ways you can help build muscle strength for your child - please ask us for suggestions.

Speaking & Listening

Children will encounter a variety of speaking and listening opportunities. Presenting information to their class during news, show and tell and through team building activities.

Art/DT

Following on from our Art week last term we will be looking at the work of William Morris and Andy Warhol to create their own farming based repetitive patterns.



Later in the term we will welcome the Warburtons Company in to school, where the children follow instructions to create their own bread using traditional baking methods. We will also be having a homework challenge to create a healthy sandwich recipe.

PE - Games

While the weather is hopefully still reasonable we aim to get outside and continue to practise and build up our ball skills. This will include balancing the ball, throwing catching and bouncing. This will be Y1 Tuesday and Y2 Friday.



We are also very excited to welcome Debbie in on a Wednesday to hold Yoga session with both classes. PLEASE ENSURE THEY HAVE THEIR PE KITS IN SCHOOL TO TAKE PART.

RE - Understanding Frieze / Harvest



The children will be looking at pictures created by our 'Understanding Christianity' resource, the different pictures are linked to the stages of the Bible. Using picture inference skills the children will be guided in seeing the links to the main stories and events. Additionally we will be discussing the role of Harvest and how we can share the harvest with others around the world.

MFL - European Languages Day

Although in KS1 the children do not need to learn a language, we often discuss useful words and phrases in other languages as well as Makaton.



On 26th September we are having a Spanish day for European Languages Day. Watch out for more information about the exciting event in school - it always very popular with the children, last year's focus on Sweden was great fun!

PSHE

The theme this half term is 'Health and Wellbeing'. During the term, they will discuss ways to lead a healthy lifestyle, list their likes/dislikes and how to recognise and manage good and bad feelings. They will also learn the importance of personal hygiene. This will all be done through circle time discussions, stories and Forest School sessions.

History/Geography

The main focus this term is History and Geography, they will be going on a trip to a farm to use fieldwork and observational skills to find out about farming land use, ask and answer questions and take pictures or make sketches.



Back in class, they will learn about the differences in machinery over time, how engineers have revolutionised farming throughout the years and in general the benefit

ICT -

Throughout the term the children will be developing lots of different ICT skills. Initially they will familiarise themselves with School360 so that they can access and completed their weekly online homework.



Then with knowledge of the JIT programs within the portal they will create commands to move a 'turtle' on screen, they will navigate an electronic encyclopedia as well as combine text and graphics to design a Recipe Book front cover.

Homework

Reading - Children will be bringing home their home reading books during the week. It would be helpful if you could either write or sign the book to say you have heard them read, it helps us to avoid repeat reading the same pages. *We would really like to give the importance and value of reading a big push this year to help create confident, fluent readers throughout school. In Year 1 reading confidence will help greatly with the phonic screening as will fluency and confidence for the Year 2 SATs reading assessments in the Summer.*

Additionally the children may bring home a second book that they have taken out of the library on our Friday visit.

Spellings and Times Tables - Children will be given differentiated spellings to learn for their weekly spelling test on a Friday morning. Please help your child as much as possible learn these words as they will help with their confidence and fluency as both a reader and writer.

With the new expectation of compulsory times table tests at Year 4 there are certain times tables we endeavour to have the children fluent in by the end of each year. **Year 1: 2x and 10x table. Year 2: 2x, 3x, 5x and 10x table.**

Please whenever the opportunity arises help your child continue to practise these number sequences and become more fluent and confident.

Maths / English Homework - Children will be given some Maths Homework on School 360, within the Frog resources. These will be available to complete from Friday afternoon to the following Friday morning at 8am. . The maths homework is usually linked to the work they have done that week in Numeracy and should be appropriate for them to complete independently, this is aiming to replace Mathletics as it has proven more popular with the children throughout our trial in KS2 last term.

Thanks for your help and support.

Parental Help/Resources

We would very much appreciate your help/skills/resources that would link to any of our topics for this and the following half term throughout the year. If you feel that you could help us and your children out in any way please contact school and let us know.

Home Time

If you need to change the usual arrangements for picking up your child from school, please let school know as soon as possible. As you will understand we cannot allow children to leave the school premises unless we have permission from parents or carers.

Forest School / PE Kits (Tues, Wed and Friday)

Classes will be using the forest area whenever possible, we have waterproof trousers which we provide for each child but please ensure that their wellies are in school to avoid their school shoes being ruined. Similarly, a warm winter coat /hat / gloves should be in school so that are comfortable.

We are intending to do Yoga on Wednesday afternoons and other PE on a Tuesday (Y1) or Friday (Y2), so please ensure that they have their PE Kits as well as appropriate footwear in school at all times, especially if they have done an after school club the kit must return the next day.

Last year, across the whole school there was a high demand for the spare PE kit to be used and as a result we have very limited provisions now. Finally, if your child has had their ears pierced - ideally the earring should be removed for PE if not we can provide tape.

In general, long hair needs to be tied up for PE but would be best tied up at all times in school.