

Class Information



September 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new academic year! I hope you and your child had a lovely summer and that they are ready to start a busy year in school.

Topic

In the autumn term we will be focusing on the topic Paws, Claws and Whiskers. In science, we will classify and identify a wide range of animals and understand the differences between herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. In geography, we will explore the world map, identifying the seven continents and the five oceans. We will utilise our creative talents within both our art and design and technology lessons, where we will create transport for teddy bears and develop our sketching techniques. Online safety will be a key focus within our computing lessons before we move onto touch typing in the computer suite. After the October half term, we are looking forward to our history topic focusing on toys from the past as well as our highlight of the academic year - our Christmas production! A busy term ahead!

P.E

PE will be on the days stated below for your class. Please make sure your child's PE kit is always in school every day. We will send it home occasionally for washing. Whenever possible the children will be outside for PE lessons so could they please have suitable jogging bottoms/leggings and a warm sweatshirt/ jumper in their bag as well as their T Shirt & shorts. Please also ensure that any earrings are removed on PE days. Long hair should be tied up and a spare hair bobble kept in their PE kit. Every item of clothing and shoes should be named.



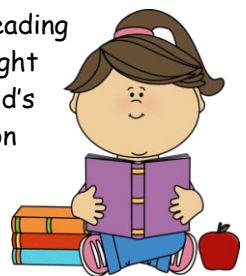
McKee - Monday and Thursday

Donaldson - Monday and Friday

Jeffers - Wednesday and Friday

Reading Books

Reading is a central part of your child's learning across the whole curriculum. Your child should be reading regularly at home with you, every day. Their home reading book (provided by school) must be brought back into school every **Wednesday** so that both books can be changed. Please complete your child's Reading Record with comments about your child reading their reading book. You could comment on their fluency, pace, use of expression, if they have self-corrected or needed help sounding out some of the words. With only changing the home reading book once a week, we expect your child to read their book more than once to develop accuracy and fluency. As well as reading school books, you could also choose from a range of reading materials such as poetry, instructions, comics and magazines etc. It is important to make reading a fun, enjoyable activity. We want children to develop a genuine love of reading.



Interest books

Every Wednesday or Thursday, your child will be able to choose a children's choice book from the classroom or library. This book is there to be read and shared with an adult to promote a love of reading. Please ensure the book is returned every Wednesday so your child can pick a different book to bring home and enjoy.

Spellings

In Year 1, your child will bring home on **Wednesday**, six given words reinforcing the graphemes (sound)s that they have learnt that week. Your child will be asked to complete the table with more words containing the same

graphemes. On the following **Monday**, your child will be tested on the **six given words and four random words** containing the grapheme. The spelling score will be sent home on Wednesday with a new set of spellings. In Year 1, **up until October half term**, your child will only be tested on the **six given words**.

In Year 2, your child will bring home on **Wednesday**, eight given words reinforcing the graphemes (sound)s that they have learnt that week. Your child will be asked to complete the table with more words containing the same graphemes. On the following **Monday**, your child will be tested on the **eight given words and four random words** containing the grapheme. The spelling score will be sent home on Wednesday with a new set of spellings.

Common Exception Words

To support the children with their spelling of their Common Exception Words, we will be sending home a little red book containing 4 words for Year 1 children and 6 words for Year 2 children to learn. It is the intention that the children will then be able to apply these words in their writing consistently. Your child will be tested on their Common Exception words on a **Tuesday** on a two-week cycle.

Memory Math's - Year 2 Only

It is a statutory requirement that every child leaves Year 2 knowing all their multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We also have high expectations that they will know their 3 times tables too. To encourage your child to achieve this we have set up 'Memory Maths'. This is a weekly test to assess their instant recall of their number facts. It will be every **Thursday** starting on Thursday 14th September.

Learning Journal Homework

The children will receive a task every **Friday** and have until the following **Wednesday** to complete it and hand their books in. It is important that it is completed and handed in on time every week. The task will either be Maths, English or Topic related.

Letters

Please remember to keep us informed of changes in arrangements to collections. A letter popped in the book bag is the most efficient way as book bags are checked every day by an adult (further into the academic year the children will gradually be encouraged to become more independent and check their own book bags) and letters then passed on. This is particularly important as we will not let your child leave with another adult unless we have been informed of this beforehand. If your child is on the bus, could you please clarify which days they will be travelling by bus and if there are any changes to your child's normal bus arrangements.

Uniform

Please make sure that all items of clothing are named. The children have their own drawers in the classroom to put their jumpers and cardigans in, and we encourage them to look after their possessions. We will be going into winter uniform on Monday 18th September. Every child should then be in their shirt and tie, no summer dresses or polo shirts.

Familiar faces

If you have any queries or wish to speak to us, we are more than willing to discuss queries with you, so please contact the office to make an appointment, or speak to us in the playground at the **end of the day**.

We have created an overview of the home learning your child will be expected to do each week.

Monday	Spelling Test
Tuesday	Common Exception words Test
Wednesday	New spellings out Learning Journals in Reading Book

Thursday	Memory Maths Interest Books changed
Friday	Memory Maths Results (Year 2 only) Learning Journals out

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Miss Wicks, Ms Wilson and Mrs Hollis