



Dolphin Class

Term 1

Newsletter



Welcome back to you all!

You will be pleased to hear that the children have settled well into the new school year.

We are looking forward to working with you and have a really exciting term planned.

Our topic theme this term is **'What is a shadow?'**

We will be stimulating the children's curiosity, understanding, and imagination using shadows, different light sources including the sun; how shadows are formed; how we use electricity to make light, what happens when there is an absence of light and about animals that are nocturnal. We will also be learning about caring for ourselves and others emotions and feelings. We will be exploring the children's individual strengths, including what makes them special and unique.

English



We will be reading a variety of non-fiction books on the theme of families. For example, Funny Bones, Owl Babies, Oscar and the moth and Day Monkey Night Monkey. We will be looking at pictures of day and night and nocturnal animals. We will be encouraging the children to think about their own experiences and asking questions which provoke talking and thinking. Where does light come from? How does it feel at different times of the day? How are shadows formed?

We will be drawing and writing about our topic and learning key vocabulary to describe. The children will be making shadow puppets and 'light and dark' word banks using photographs, words and sentences.

Reading is vital to help with writing ideas as well as developing the children's vocabulary and understanding. We ask that an adult shares a book with your child or hears them read at least three times a week, and that this is recorded in the child's reading record. The reading books and reading records will be sent home daily and should be returned to school every day.

Maths



In Numeracy we will be focusing on counting, ordering and comparing numbers. We will be playing with numbers in different ways using a carousel of activities.

We will play lots of maths games and exploring learning through play.

We will be looking at capacity and the mathematical language required for filling containers. We will also be talking about daily routines and ordering events in our days.

Creative learning



We will be exploring our own shadows in the playground and creating shadow puppets.

We will be making mobiles that make shadows on a classroom wall, using a range of opaque materials such as cotton reels, tubes, card stars and other materials.

We will also explore fireworks; watching firework videos, dancing to the sound of fireworks and creating firework pictures. We will also be making simple tea light holders or Divas for Diwali using clay.

Some information to support you and your child:

How you can help

- **Keep in contact** - Please ensure that you read and sign the contact book every day.
- **Reading** Please share a book with your child or hear them read at least three times a week.
- **Talk** - Talk to your child about their day we will detail in the contact book the activities they have taken part in on that day, this will help with what you can talk about.
- **Useful websites** - The following are a list of websites that you could use to support your child at home.

www.signedstories.com

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org

www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games

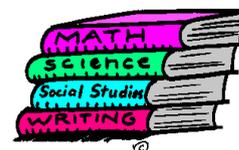
Homework



Homework will be sent home termly on a jigsaw sheet this year and is linked to the topic the children are learning. The suggestions are for you to complete as a family, giving you the opportunity to be directly involved with your child's school based learning.

The expectation is to complete at least 2 of the jigsaw pieces, but the children can complete however many they wish to do.

The homework is should be handed in by **Monday 16th October.**



Forest School



We will be going to forest school every week on Tuesday mornings, starting **Tuesday 11th September.** Please ensure that the children **arrive** to school in their Forest school clothing with their school uniform in a labelled bag.



Horse Riding

We are excited to be going Horse riding every **Friday.** The children need to be wearing old clothes and ensure that they have warm, waterproof coats. Old footwear or wellington boots can be worn to walk around the stables. Please ensure the children arrive to school in their horse riding clothes with their school uniform in a labelled bag.

PE

Please make sure your child has the correct PE kit in school, with everything clearly named! These will be kept in school until the end of each term. We will be teaching PE outside as well

Finally, thank you for your continued support!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us by writing a note in the child's contact book and we will get back to you as soon as possible. We look forward to sharing a great learning journey this term.