

PLACES OF INTEREST RELATED TO THIS TOPIC

We are fortunate to be located near to the Thames so it would be fantastic if you could visit with your child.

In fact, on the 21st September the PTA are organising The Thames Walk Challenge to raise funds for the school. Please see the PTA Facebook page for more details.

SPECIAL REQUEST

As we learn to care for 'Our Wonderful World' we are going to be recycling materials in class. Please could you collect and send in any of the following:

Magazines , Newspapers, Bottle tops
Metal bottle tops, Pringles tubes, Cardboard
Milk cartons, Plastic bottles, Sweet wrappers,
Corks
Or anything that you think could be useful!

HOW CAN MY PARENT HELP ME?

Home learning is not compulsory. At the end of term 1, we will be holding our 'Exhibition'. Please see our separate optional homework letter for more details. Alongside this, we would actively encourage parents and pupils to familiarise themselves with the Home Learning page on the school website. On the Home Learning page, you will find useful websites and spelling resources to support your child's learning at home.

Reading: We would encourage children to read for pleasure as much as possible. We allow children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) to choose their own reading books. However, we will always ensure that each child has chosen a book with a suitable level of challenge. We expect all children to be reading independently or to an adult for at least 20 minutes 4 times a week.

Maths: 'Times Table Rockstars' is a fun, free interactive game online which can be accessed via our school website. All the children have a school log- in which they can use at home. The children should understand how it works. Please encourage your child to play in their spare time, as times tables recall is an essential skill that will help them across the maths curriculum.



<https://play.ttrockstars.com/>



Our Wonderful World

Lower Key Stage 2 Team

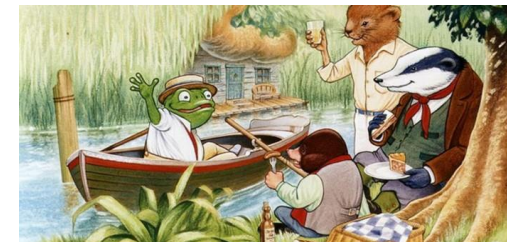


TOPIC OVERVIEW

Welcome back!

We hope that you had an enjoyable summer holiday and are ready for the start of a new academic year.

During the autumn term we will have a whole school theme of 'Our Wonderful World' and the children will be learning about our world with a focus on rivers. Much of our work in literacy will be based on the story of the Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame.



THIS TERM, YOU WILL LEARN...

English	This term we will be writing character and setting descriptions based on the story of 'The Wind in the Willows' by Kenneth Grahame. During these units of work, the children will also be learning the National Curriculum Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar objectives.
Maths	We will be working through the National Curriculum for Maths. Our focus for this term will be Place Value and Counting. The children will be taught in year groups for maths. <u>Y3 and Year 4</u> Number and Place Value Addition and Subtraction We will also be focusing on our recall of multiplication and division facts using Timestable Rockstars.
Science	The children will be exploring classification of living things and food chains.
Art & Design	The children will be creating collages depicting the journey of the river inspired by the artist Monet. The children will be making instruments from recycled materials.
Geography	This term we will have a whole school theme of 'Our Wonderful World' and the children will be learning about the natural world with a focus on rivers.
PE	Tag Rugby Netball
French	The children will explore French rivers and locations.
Music	Percussion instruments
Computing	The children will be studying Internet Safety and Databases
RE	Our main Autumn theme will be Giving starting with Harvest Festival. We will also be investigating different faiths comparing similarities and differences.
PSHE	Link to the School Vales of CARE.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THIS TERM

PE:

Please could you ensure that children have their PE kit in school all week. PE kits should include:
A plain white top / house top (summer)
Plain black or navy joggers / shorts
A school rugby top (winter) – these are a new addition to our PE uniform and are available from 'Make It Mine', our school uniform shop. Alternatively a black or navy jumper (no hoodies).
Sports trainers (can be same as those worn to school, if dark coloured)
Please make sure that all school uniform items (including PE kits) are clearly labelled.

Equipment:

All stationery is provided by school. No pencil cases or other equipment from home should be brought in as this often causes problems if items get broken or lost and can act as a distraction for some children.

Snacks:

We would encourage you to send your child in with a healthy snack (fruit or cheese) that can be eaten at playtime. It is important that your child brings a water bottle to school each day.

Mornings

The school day starts at **8:40am** so the children should arrive and go straight to the playground between 8.30 and 8.40am. A whistle is blown at 8.40am and children should line up in their classes. The class teacher will then collect the children and take them back to class for registration. At this point parents will need to allow their child to enter the school building with their class and class teacher. We believe that this is good practice to build independence as the children move up through the school.

End of the Day

All classes will be dismissed from the playground. If your child has a play date or is being collected by someone else, please inform the office, as without permission we will be unable to allow the children to go.

Special Event:

Wednesday 23rd October – 1.30pm 'Rainforest Orchestra' collaborative performance with year 6. We would love parents to attend.

A MESSAGE FROM THE TEACHERS

We are very excited about getting to know our new classes and learning all about rivers and the natural world.

We are happy to speak to you about any concerns you may have, but please do remember that the beginning of the day is more difficult as we are settling the children into class. Please book an appointment via the office for an after school slot.