

Year 2, Autumn 2, Curriculum Learning

Dear families,

Elephant Class had a fantastic start to the year last half term. The children have become increasingly confident in explaining who they are as learners and identifying the strategies and resources that will help them in their learning. Children have thrown themselves into the Core Book Challenge and can make connections with other stories they have read. This half term will be busy, eventful, and exciting, so please check the important diary dates.

 Our  topic  question: *How are we the same and how are we different?*

Important events/diary dates:

PE Days: Tuesday and Thursday

Friday 8th November: Diwali Celebration (Please wear your colourful outfits)

Monday 11th November: Remembrance Day

Wednesday 13th November: Mulberry Festival of Arts

Friday 15th November: Children in Need

Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th November: Parents evening

Friday 22th November: Parents Spelling Workshop 9:00am- 9:30am

Wednesday 27th November: Trip to Soanes Centre (Pond Life Workshop)

December

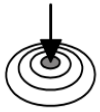
Wednesday 4th, 11th and 18th December: Carol Performance at John Lewis 1-3pm

Tuesday 17th December: Christmas Show

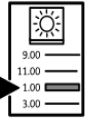
Wednesday 18th December: Christmas Party

Thursday 19th December: Christmas Pantomime

Friday 20th December: Last Day of Term (School finishes at 1pm)



Core



Book



Challenge

English:

In English, our key texts are **Paddington-The original story of the bear from Darkest Peru** by Michael Bond and **The Christmas Pine** by

Julia Donaldson. Children will continue to develop their comprehension skills by inferring characters' feelings through gestures and facial expressions. This will support children to understand that actions are usually performed for a reason and begin to give reasons for the characters' actions. We will be focusing on summarising different parts of the text as accurately and clearly as we can. Children will be reading a range of additional texts: non-chronological report, poem, leaflet and riddles, this range will support them to understand how and why we write for different purposes.

Writing

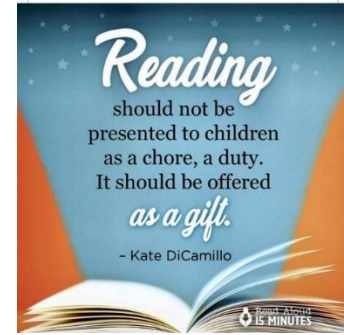
Children will be exploring the difference between a **formal and an informal tone** and identifying the key information needed for an **invitation**. Children will be able to use statement and command sentences in their writing to create a **persuasive invitation**. Look out, you might just see one addressed to you for our Christmas Performance!

We will build on last term's narrative writing, by creating a story developed from **stories from other cultures**. This will link to our Geography unit, as the story will be set in Nairobi, Kenya. We will incorporate our geographical understanding and knowledge of the Kenyan culture to write a vivid and believable story.

Phonics

Children will be applying their phonics knowledge across the curriculum. It's important for children to hear stories read with expression, and to understand how full stops signal where to pause. Children will continue learning to read longer words, known as **multisyllabic words**. When decoding unfamiliar words, it is helpful to break them into smaller, manageable chunks. All pupils are working at their own reading abilities, it is essential that children are reading for at least 10 minutes every day!

Please ensure your child brings in their reading wallet every day so that they can participate in reading opportunities with an adult, using their own levelled books



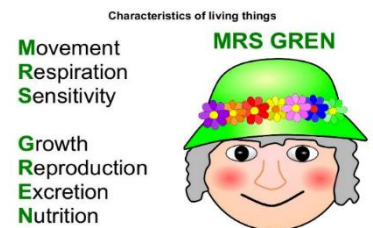
Maths

We will be exploring **Adding and Subtraction**. Children will build upon the number bonds to 10 that they will have learned in Year 1. **Number bonds to 10 are key mathematical facts that need to be understood and instantly recalled for children to develop their number sense.** Children will be introduced to writing fact families of equations, and begin to understand the relationship between addition and subtraction operations. As a result, children learn to use the inverse of one operation to check calculations using the other operation. Children will also be introduced to the challenging concept of 'make 10' to aid mental calculations. Children will have lots of opportunities to practice this concept using concrete, pictorial and abstract activities as repetition is key to mastery!

Our next unit will be shape, children will continue to build their **knowledge of shapes**, focusing on the **properties of both 2D and 3D shapes**. They will also draw on their counting skills and their ability to compare and order numbers. Lastly children will **learn to describe and categorise shapes** based on their number of sides, vertices, edges and faces.

Science

In science, we will be exploring the topic **Animals, including Humans**. Children will be researching the life cycles of different animals and understand some offspring looks the same as the adult animal, but not all. Children will find out and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air). They will begin to make links between animal's basic needs and the characteristics of living thing being interconnected. Lastly, we will be investigating what keeps humans healthy and why choosing these behaviours are important.



Geography:

Geography is the study of where places are found, what they are like, and the relationships between people and their environments. Children will use **simple fieldwork and observational skills** to study the geography of their school and its grounds and the **key human and physical features** of its surrounding environment. Then children will be studying **place** (The study of what a location is like by looking at the human and physical feature) by comparing London and Nairobi Kenya. Children will demonstrate their place knowledge through understanding and identifying the geographical similarities and differences of the human and physical features in both London and Nairobi.



Design and Technology

In our first DT Unit Textiles, pupils will learn how to use a template to create a simple patchwork by repurposing clothing to create something practical and useful. They will develop their skills using a needle and thread to create small, even stitches.



In our other DT Unit Food and Nutrition – What does healthy mean? Pupils will consider what being healthy means. They will learn that eating a variety of vegetables provides the body with the nutrients it needs. They will make products that use a range of vegetables and minimally processed foods.



Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)

In PSHE, through the topic "**Celebrating difference**" children will understand that sometimes people make assumptions about boys and girls (stereotypes) and they are not always true. Children will discuss why bullying happens and understand that bullying is sometimes about difference. Then children will build their identity as a problem solver by knowing when and how to stand up for themselves and others and know how to get help if they are being bullied. This will help them recognise right and wrong and how to look after themselves.

Religious Education (RE)

In R.E. this term, children will begin by reviewing their learning from last half-term. They will be introduced to the six major world religions and learn key facts about each one. Additionally, we will explore significant religious festivals occurring this term, such as Diwali and Christmas.

Computing

This half term children will be introduced to Blockly, a simple programming language. Pupils will learn how to use it to create their own code, whilst thinking about conditionals, functions and using randomisation. They will also be challenged on their accuracy in creating and copying code, as well as finding and fixing any errors.

Music

In Music, children will be introduced to the ukulele. They will learn the different parts of the string instrument, where it comes from and be able to play one themselves. Pupils will be taught how to hold the instrument, the correct technique when plucking the strings, and how to hold down the strings correctly on the neck to produce a different pitch. They will then be shown how to play some simple rhythms and songs together as a class and individually.

Physical Education

In PE, children will learn a selection of age-appropriate games that will increase heart rate, and which will be inclusive and enjoyable for all involved. These games will incorporate either running, balancing, ball skills or racket skills, or possibly a mixture of these, but are more aimed at fun first, whilst still learning and developing sporting and athletic skill.

This term we will be doing the following:

Weekly PE lessons	Tuesday and Thursday at the Sports Hall
Spelling	Monday (spell check on Friday)
RWI Reading Books and Bookbag Books	Friday
Core Reading Challenge	Friday
Class Library Book	Friday
Give Me 10	Every Thursday 8:50am to 9:10am.
Celebration Assembly	Every Friday 2:50pm (no entries after 3pm)

Homework:

Children should continue reading to an adult for 20 minutes each night. This half term, they will be practising spelling "red words" from Levels 1-6, which are listed in their reading record. Practising these words for both reading and spelling will be very beneficial.

For math practice, children can work on recalling their number bonds to 10, 20, and 100. Continuing to practice skip counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s is also helpful, and you can challenge them to try counting in 3s as well.

Optional Research Task: We are learning about Nairobi, Kenya. Children could create a fact file by researching interesting information about Kenya's capital city.

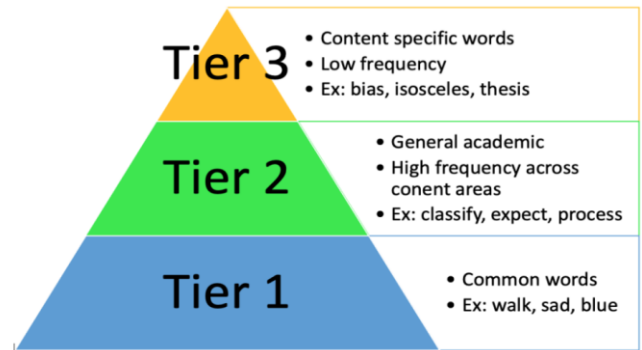
Please note that last half-term's home project is due in the final week of this term.



Key



Vocabulary



Science:

Three-Tiered Model of Vocabulary (Beck et al., 2013)

Vocabulary for explicit instruction					
Tier 2 multiple meaning or high frequency		Tier 3 subject specific			
healthy	being well and in good shape	hygiene	actions that keep you clean and healthy		
survive	to keep living	larva	young and active form of an insect		
exercise	activities to keep you fit and healthy	pupa	inactive form of insect between the larva and adult stages		
heart	organ that pumps blood around a body	vertebrates	animals with backbones		
lungs	organs that take in air when breathing	invertebrates	animals without backbones		
muscles	parts of the body that make you move	metamorphosis	process of change from a young insect or amphibian to an adult		

Geography:

Vocabulary for explicit instruction					
Tier 2 multiple meaning or high frequency		Tier 3 subject specific			
contrast	comparing two or more things in order to show the differences between them	fieldwork	study that consists of practical activities that are carried out away from your school		
record	writing or drawing that is an account of something that can be looked at in the future	settlement	the place people live, for example a village, town or city		
surrounding	near or around something	coastal	near a coast		
natural	existing in nature; not made or caused by humans	worship	an act of showing respect for a god		
shelter	a structure built to give protection	location	a place where something exists		
observe	to see or notice something	rural	rural places are far away from large towns or cities		



Tier 2 multiple meaning or high frequency		Tier 3 subject specific	
urban	relating to a town or city	landmark	an object or feature of a landscape or town that is easily seen from a distance
sprawling	spread out irregularly over a large area	country	a nation with its own government, occupying a particular territory
contrast	the state of being noticeably different from something else when put or considered together	capital	the most important city or town of a country or region
horizon	the line at which the earth's surface and the sky appear to meet	climate	the general weather conditions in an area over a long period
striking	noticeable	feature	a distinctive element or aspect
		savanna	a vast, dry grassland with a few trees

Design and Technology:

Technical vocabulary:

Patchwork – a type of needlework where small pieces of cloth in different designs, colours or textures are sewn together.

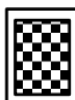
Overstitch – a stitch made over an edge or over another stitch.

Repurpose – to change something slightly in order to make it suitable for a different purpose.

Template – a shaped piece of metal, wood, card, plastic or other material used as a pattern for processes such as painting or cutting out.

Appliqué – a technique where pieces of fabric are sewn or stuck on to a larger piece to form a picture or pattern.

Quilt – fabric made from several layers with a decorative patchwork top layer.



Technical vocabulary:

Free-range – food that comes from animals who have access to the outdoors.



Processed – to treat raw food in order to change it or preserve it.



Coagulate – to become thick or partly solid.



Vitamins – a group of natural substances in food that are necessary for the growth and good health of the body.



Protein – a nutrient found in food such as meat, milk and eggs.



Wholemeal – made from whole grains of wheat, including the husk or outer layer.



Techniques:



claw



ribboning



bridge