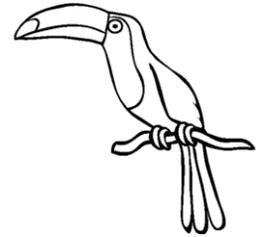


Fen Ditton C. P. School



Toucans Year 2/3

Autumn Term 2018 Link Letter

In the table below you will find information about the topics your child will be covering, in each of the curriculum subjects over the next term.

Subject	Theme
English	<p>In the first half term our English lessons will be taught around texts that link with our topic. Firstly, we are focusing on 'Handa's Surprise' and we are going to be exploring grammatical elements that are evident in the text and write our own narrative based on the story. We will also be looking at the story 'Meerkat Mail' where our main focus will be on letter writing. During the half term children will also produce some poetry based on the texts we are studying.</p> <p>After half term our writing focuses will be report writing and instructional writing. Pre-cursive or cursive handwriting is now the expectation and children will be practicing this in handwriting lessons, as well as in all writing across the curriculum.</p>
Mathematics	<p>The children will have daily maths lessons following the 'Mastery Maths' initiative. Through this approach the children spend longer on mathematical topics to enable them to develop a deeper understanding of the key concepts and to improve their fluency, problem solving and reasoning skills. This term we are specifically focusing on number and place value, addition and subtraction, money and multiplication and division. Regular opportunities will be built in to develop your child's mental maths skills and cross curricular links will be made to our topic focuses where possible. We will also be starting the superhero times table initiative later on this half term where children will first try to defeat Batman by knowing their 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Each morning when the children enter the classroom there will be a morning maths activity for the children to be getting on with independently linked to our themes of the week or an area which needs practicing.</p>
Science	<p>During the first half term our science focus will be on animals including humans and after half term we will be exploring everyday materials. Lots of our lessons will involve the children completing investigations and will enable them to develop their questioning, making observations and recording skills with links being made to Mathematics.</p>
Topic (History and Geography)	<p>This half term our topic is Africa. We will be looking at the geography of Africa which a specific focus on Kenya. Children will be given lots of opportunities to work on their map skills and we will be comparing daily life in Africa to life in the UK.</p> <p>After half term we will be studying an artist and looking at the history of art.</p>
Religious Education	<p>This half term we will be having a whole school RE celebration. During the second half term our RE topic will be focusing on gifts and giving. We will be thinking about different types of gifts we can give and why giving is important. Children will learn why Christmas is important to Christians and why Eid al-Fitr is important to Muslims. Children will learn how they are both celebrated and will then go on to explore the importance of giving and gifts in both celebrations.</p>
Personal Development	<p>Our first topic is 'Friends and Family' where children will learn about and be able to describe what a friend is and does, recognising the diversity in friendship and that friendship patterns change. They will address strategies for coping with difficult situations in friendships. They will also focus on family relationships, identifying who is in their own family and what is special about them, and what they and other family members do to care for each other. After half term there will be a whole school anti-bullying day. There will also be a class circle time each week on a Wednesday.</p>
Physical Education	<p>This half term Mr Green, who is a premier sport coach, will teach PE on a Monday afternoon and Miss Parker will teach PE on a Wednesday morning. The focus for this half term will be fundamental movement skills and games.</p> <p>The children will need the following kit and please make sure it is all clearly named: A white t-shirt, blue/black shorts and trousers together with appropriate footwear for indoors and outdoors. Please ensure earrings are taken out and hair bands are provided to tie long hair back.</p>

	If children have one of the school coloured t-shirts to represent their house, it would be great if they could wear them in PE lessons.
Art and design	This half term we will be experimenting with a range of different media in preparation for creating our own African masks at the end of the topic. Children will independently select the materials they would like to use for their final piece. After half term we will be studying an artist so we will be producing art work in a similar style to the artist we will be learning about.
Design Technology	This term we started by cooking African food and there will also be some DT elements when making our African masks.
Computing	This half term Mrs Nicholls will be teaching computing. Children will be looking at how to use the internet safely and they will conduct some research on an African animal.
Music	Mrs Rogan will be teaching music after half term. Children will explore South African Music and learn to name and play percussive instruments from this region. We will listen to a variety of pieces, learn to talk about Pulse, Rhythm and Pitch and begin to identify the instruments that we can hear. Towards the end of the term we will learn how to play the Glockenspiel, begin to read notated music and develop our performance skills.
Forest School	Toucans will be having Forest School after half term. There will be a separate letter to follow with more details.
Homework	This will be set every Friday and will consist of the following: Reading as much as possible over the week Spellings/grammar or a comprehension activity Mathematics e.g. number bonds, times tables, divisions to improve fluency or linked to what we have been learning in lessons. Optional: one other piece related to any other subject area. Please ensure homework is returned the following Wednesday.
Assessment	Reading comprehension and spelling/grammar exercises every half term Maths assessments every half term On-going writing assessment Practise SATs papers for relevant year groups
How to support your child at home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read with them daily or as much as possible, this includes your child reading to you and you reading to them • Complete homework set • Carry out practical activities such as cooking, measuring, counting and using money • Practise telling the time on analogue and digital clocks • Play a range of board games to consolidate themes in taught in different subjects and to develop turn taking and cooperation skills • Use different materials you have around the home to build and create things to stimulate and develop their creativity • Find fun purposes for writing such as keeping diaries of what you do over the weekend, writing shopping lists, post cards, letters to friends and family • Keep up to date with what is happening at school and up and coming events by reading the newsletter and checking the website regularly

If you wish to discuss any information included in the table above or you have any further questions, please book an appointment to see me.

Thank you for your support,

Miss Parker