

Year 2, Term 5 - MINIBEASTS

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a good Easter and enjoyed the sunshine. Our topic this term will focus on minibeasts.

During our topic we will :-

- Use compass points, directional language and a map to survey the school grounds.
- Look at micro-habitats within the school grounds and investigate organisms living there.
- Use equipment and nature guides to observe and identify species.
- Classify minibeasts using different criteria.
- Consider how local plants and minibeasts are adapted to their habitats.
- Discuss food chains within our local environment.
- Look at the life cycle of an organism in our local environment.
- Research and write a factual piece about a minibeast.
- Read and compare a selection of minibeast poetry.
- Write a retelling of a fable.
- Design and make a clay plaque around the theme of 'habitats'.



English will focus on the use of conjunctions such as 'but', 'so', 'when' and 'because', together with proof reading to check punctuation and spelling. We will also be consolidating the children's understanding of the Year 2 grammar and spelling rules. We will continue to do group reading sessions on a regular basis to develop fluency and also key comprehension skills.

In PSHEE we will be looking at growing and changing, including how to look after our teeth, and ICT will develop word-processing skills. In French the children will be learning vocabulary related to food and RE will focus on aspects of Judaism. PE this term will include throwing, catching and racket skills.

Multiplication Tables

Thank you for all your support with the times tables. We aim to check your child's progress each Thursday or Friday. The order for learning tables is as follows:-

- 1) Count in 10s, 2s, and 5s up to 12 x the number.
- 2) Say "1x10 = 10, 2x10 = 20" etc. with the 10s, 2s and 5x tables.
- 3) Answer all facts from the 10x table in random order and then do the same with the 2s and 5s.
- 4) Repeat the above cycle with the 3, 4 and 8x tables.

TT Rock Stars

In a few weeks time, your child will receive a log in for a computer programme called 'Times Table Rock Stars' to help with their times tables. Please encourage them to practise on it as often as possible. Thank you.

Reading

Thank you for your support in using the reading stickers to provide a record in your child's Learning Log. As this helps to develop comprehension skills, we would be grateful if you could continue to do this on a regular basis, encouraging your child to-

- **work out the meaning of tricky words** by using the context (Word Wizard).
- **answer questions** by looking back at a text and locating key words (Reporter).
- **infer** how a character feels, why they behaved in a certain way or why something happened (Detective).

To develop a wide range of comprehension skills, your child would benefit from reading **both stories and non-fiction books**.

Dates

26th April – Yr2 Cake Day. Cake Days have helped us to buy resources to enhance the children's learning, such as cress, beans and sunflower seeds, feathers for quills, and fruits and jelly. Thank you for your contributions.

6th May – May Fayre