

# KEW RIVERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2014

Dear Elephant Parents and Carers,

## Welcome to Elephant Class!

I am really looking forward to being the children's Elephant Class teacher and working with them for another year. Last year was such a fantastic year for all the children and I know that we will be having a fun and exciting year together as Elephants.

As you know, the children got to experience their new classroom before the summer holidays and have now spent their first week as members of Elephant Class. The children have already been busy getting to know the classroom and have enjoyed completing different activities.

We enjoyed meeting our new friend Ellie!



We made our own elephant badges.



We have been exploring materials in science.



Our first topic in Elephant Class will be **Inventors**

**English:** In English the children will be continuing to learn their sounds using the Read, Write Inc. programme through daily 30 minute phonics and spelling sessions. Whole class English lessons will follow with differentiated tasks to ensure everyone's needs are met and the children are challenged effectively. This term we will be looking at how different characters develop across a text before writing our own story narratives in the correct tense. We will be reading independently as well as in small groups and collectively as a whole class. We will develop our speaking and listening skills through drama and answering questions in role as certain characters. All of our English lessons will be based around high quality books by significant authors.

**Maths:** Our maths work will continue to build upon the children's skills as well as introducing them to new concepts and ways of working out problems. We will be looking at addition and subtraction and extending our number bonds to 20 and 100 and using this knowledge to work out addition number sentences. The children will be investigating 2D shapes and sorting them into different diagrams depending on their properties. We will be linking our maths work with our topic of inventors by placing numbers on a timeline and ordering dates from earliest to latest. We will develop our vocabulary based on position, direction and movement and begin to measure in centimetres and metres. We will also continue to work on our 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

**Topic:** We will be looking at inventors and the inventions that made them famous. We will be answering questions about the past and using a range of sources such as books, images and video clips to help us understand what the world was like during different time periods. The children will be thinking of ways to improve everyday objects before moving on to creating a design for their very own inventions!

**Science:** In our science work we will be looking at different materials and thinking about where they come from and how they are made. In particular we will be identifying the difference between manmade and natural materials as well as thinking about which materials will be used in our inventions and why.

**Art:** The children will be working on collage and investigating and using collage materials and processes to communicate ideas about line, shape and colour. We will be looking at the work of Matisse and develop our own large-scale response to his famous image 'The Snail'.

**Music:** This term, the children will be exploring how to make long and short sounds with their voice as well as using a range of instruments to make long and short instrumental sounds. Children will be applying these skills to their singing to create interesting sound sequences.

**French:** In French our topic will be greetings and 'all about me'. Year 1 will build on early conversations by recognising and replying to questions such as 'how are you?' and 'what's your name?' Children will also be learning numbers 1-12 as well as colours which link into our end of term Christmas activities.

**PSHCE:** We will be focusing on 'new beginnings' and how changes affect our lives. We will be exploring how we can make our classroom an exciting place to be and how we can look after the new things around us.

**RE:** Our focus this term is Sikhism and how it is practised. We will be learning about different elements of this faith including special buildings, key ceremonies and important people. Children will learn about important times and days in the Sikh calendar and how these are celebrated.

**PE/Games:** Our P.E days will be **Wednesday** and **Thursday**. On Mondays the children bring their PE kit in a bag for the week and we will get changed all together on our P.E days. Motive8 will run an outdoor session with the children and I will teach an indoor session on gymnastics and dance. The children can take their PE kits home on Fridays.

**RSE:** We will be looking at the ways in which males and females are the same and the way in which they are different. We will learn about female and male animals and relate this to life cycles.

**Home Learning:** The children will continue to get home learning in Elephant Class. Your child will receive a piece of maths home learning based on our week's lessons as well as spellings each week; please practise these words with your child. Three of these words should be recorded in a sentence. Your child will also continue to be sent home three Oxford Reading Tree Books, please hear your child read and comment in their reading record book weekly. Your child's home learning will be sent home on a **Thursday** and needs to be returned the following **TUESDAY**. Over the half term your child will also receive a piece of home learning related to their next topic. Children can find out facts and read about certain elements of the topic in preparation for the new half term and share these with the class as part of their show and tell.

**Green Leaves:** Please keep sending in the green leaves with all the lovely things your child has been doing at home. We are always happy to add another leaf to our golden rules tree.

**Show and Tell:** Please see the weekly bulletin for details on how show and tell will run in Elephant Class.

**Request:** We would like to display some words about the topic in a variety of languages so, if anyone could translate our topic vocabulary, please come and see me.

**Question Time:** If you have any questions or queries then please come and talk to us at the end of the day as we can have a proper conversation with you at this time. I will be available to meet after school on a Tuesday; please let me know if you would like to make an appointment.

**Dates for the diary:**

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| 19 <sup>th</sup> September                  | - | Jeans for Genes Day   |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> September                  | - | PTA Meeting – 9.00 – 10.00am (at school)                    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> October                     | - | PTA AGM – 19.00 – 21.00 (at school)                         |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> October                     | - | Library visit   |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> October                    | - | PTA Social – 19.00 – 22.00 (at school)                      |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> October                    | - | Trip – Science Museum                                       |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> October | - | Art Week  |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> October                    | - | Last day of half term (normal time)                         |
| <b>Half Term</b>                            | - | <b>27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> October</b>            |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> November                    | - | Inset Day   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> November                    | - | Children back to school                                     |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov     | - | Parents consultations                                       |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> December                    | - | Library visit   |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> December                    | - | Kew Sparkle (Kew village)                                   |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> December                   | - | Key Stage 2 – Richmond Theatre (more information to follow) |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> December                   | - | PTA Christmas Fair (school hall)                            |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December                   | - | Christmas Lunch   |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> December                   | - | Last day of term (normal time)                              |

Sarah and Anna

