

KEW RIVERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term 2015

Dear Elephant Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy but exciting first term in Elephant Class! The children have all been working so hard and have been brilliant role models for Zebra and Giraffe class now they are at the top of Key Stage 1! Our first topic of inventors was a huge success; all the children really enjoyed learning about the different inventions throughout history. We were extremely impressed with the children's creative show and tell items and their art work, posters and fact pages have certainly brightened up our new classroom. Recently, Christmas activities have been in full swing and I'm sure you will agree with us when we say that the children were all amazing in our nativity 'A Present for the Baby'. As 2014 comes to an end let's see what the children have been getting up to.

We became super heroes for Children In Need!



Creating our own clay mythical creatures for Art Week.



We made pancakes in science – yum!



We loved our trip to the Science Museum!



Being measuring superstars in maths.



Christmas costumes for our Nativity.



Our next topic in Elephant Class will be **Explorers**

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. 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 place value and ordering 2 digit numbers. We will be revising our number bonds to 10 before moving on to bridging numbers to tens. We will look at finding change with our money work from 10p and 20p by counting up and using our bonds to 10 and 20. We will also be recognising and identifying properties of 3D shapes and sorting them according to these properties. We will be revising time and looking at telling the time to the nearest quarter on analogue and digital clocks.

Topic: We will be exploring the world around us and looking at specific geographical features such as the 7 continents and 5 oceans of the world. We will be elephant class explorers and locate and name places and capital cities using maps and globes. We will spend time comparing the UK to a much colder part of the world – the North Pole! Building on our map work we will also be using compass directions and directional language to describe locations and human and physical features around the world.

Science: In our science work we will be looking at electricity and the significant role it plays in our lives. We will investigate what electricity is and where it comes from building on the previous work we have completed on inventors. We will be creating our own battery operated circuits and challenge ourselves to light up the bulb! We will also look into safety around electricity and electrical items.

Art: The children will be working on their painting skills and respond to the work of Wassily Kandinsky through the use of lines, shapes and colours. We will be exploring Kandinsky's paintings and use them as a starting point for our own shape images. We will be investigating the use of visual elements such as line, colour and space to make our own art work interesting and original.

Music: Holly, our new experienced music teacher, will be teaching music on a weekly basis.

French: In French we will be exploring the children's book *La Surprise de Handa* (Handa's Surprise) and focus on animals, fruits and colours. We will explore pattern sounds with new language and express preferences with simple phrases. We will also look at French customs for epiphany, pancake day and Easter.

PSHCE: Linking with the rest of the school we will be exploring the area of 'going for goals' and setting realistic and achievable targets and resolutions for ourselves. We will continue to check in with each other to see the progress we have made on our own targets as well as seeing what we can do to help each other achieve theirs.

RE: Our focus this term is Christianity. We will be looking at different aspects of the faith including the life of Jesus and some of the stories he taught. We will be reading bible stories and explore the different parables and miracles that are written in the bible.

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 differences in males and females and naming the parts of the body which make us different. We will also be looking at relationships and how everyone has different needs but we all need to be looked after and cared for.

Home Learning: 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. Your child will also continue to be sent home three Oxford Reading Tree Books or a chapter book, 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.

Show and Tell: The children will have a specific week to bring in items for their show and tell based on their reading groups – the children all know which group they are in. Week 1 – Mr Large in Charge, Week 2 – Horton Hears a Who, Week 3 – Baby Elephant, Week 4 – Elmer and Week 5 – Babar.

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:

5th January
6th January
30th January
11th February
17th – 21st February
25th March

Inset Day
Term Starts
Scooter Training – Elephant Class
Trip – The Natural History Museum
Half Term
Trip – The Barn Church

Thank you very much,

Sarah and Anna.



