



Welcome back from the Y1/2 Team

We hope you all had a lovely holiday and are ready for a new term! We have an exciting Summer Term planned with our topic ANIMALS IN THE WILD! This is split into mini topics over the term – *We're all going to the zoo! Animal Information, Who am I?, Where would you find me?, Rustle and splash!, The Senses, Dragons and Dinosaurs.* Each block will cover all areas of the curriculum with lots of opportunities for practical hands-on activities, outdoor learning and investigations. We are planning a trip to the zoo in the 2nd week, and visits to the woods, grassy areas, hedgerows and ponds around Ivybridge throughout the rest of the term. We also hope to have a puppet making workshop in the 2nd part of the term.

Literacy

We will be teaching literacy in blocked units of work which will include a grammar focus. We will be reading lots of stories about animals and their characteristics, including Aesop's Fables and Just So stories. We will be writing letters, stories based on fantasy worlds including mini-beasts and fantasy animals, and non-chronological reports about animals, using labels and captions. We will use non-fiction texts about animals and their habitats. Reading will be taught through guided reading and phonics sessions, developing the children's range of decoding and comprehension skills. Phonics Bug books are available for your child to read online at home – please see their logging on details in their journals.

Mathematics

Maths areas include number, calculation, shape and data handling. We will make maths come to life by using information collected about our homes, real life problems and concrete experiences. We will help children gain skills to solve problems in their heads as well as beginning to record their maths thinking using jottings and then more formal workings. Teaching will be differentiated to ensure the lessons challenge and support all children. Children will have opportunities to work alone and in groups. The year 2 children will particularly be tackling multiplication and division, fractions, position and direction.

Science

In the first half term we will learn about living things and wild animals. The children will be naming and finding out about different species of animals, their habitats and adaptations. In the second half term we will learn about habitats around Ivybridge and in the school grounds, and also about humans and the 5 senses. We will also be looking at skeletons, bones and fossils and what these tell us about creatures that lived in the past.

Computing

In computing lessons we will learn to use technology safely and effectively. The use of I pads and programmes such as 2animate, 2paint, 2publish and Draw will link with our work on animals in our literacy, maths, art, DT and other topic work. We will be using technology such as the beebots in our work on journeys, position and direction.

Physical Education

This term our outdoor PE will involve developing our athletics and swimming skills. This will take place on a Tuesday afternoon for both Hedgehogs and Bats, and there will be an additional or indoor session on Friday.

Other Curriculum

Geography – We will be finding out about animal habitats around our school and around the world. We will be looking at maps as well as drawing our own and paying attention to various features like open grassland, hedges, woodland, rivers, ponds and wild areas. We will consider how to keep areas for our wildlife to thrive in, and how to look after our world.

History – We will be learning about the work of Charles Darwin and David Attenborough and how this helps us to learn more about animals. We will also look at the story of Mary Anning and the finding of dinosaur fossils.

Art/ DT – We will be looking at the work of different artists who have painted animals and birds, both realistic and imaginary. We will make observational drawings of animals in the zoo and mini-beasts around the school. We will investigate model making, including clay creatures, and puppet making out of recycled materials/objects.

RE – Our topics will include a study of the story of Noah’s Ark, the symbolism of the dove and the rainbow, Creation stories and how we should look after our world.

Homework - Your child will receive 3 sets of homework – maths/topic, spelling and reading.

Maths/literacy/topic Homework - set on Thursday and collected in the following Tuesday. This gives the teachers enough time to mark the children’s books, before returning them with new homework.

Spelling Homework – spellings are tested on Tuesdays and new words are set. The new words are taught in class but must be learnt at home too! We return the test sheet to you so you know how your child has done.

Reading Homework - please ensure you hear your child read regularly – preferably daily - from a range of sources which could include their school reading book, books from home, the internet, comics, brochures etc. Please comment regularly in your child’s journals.

Film Consent

To enhance the children’s learning, we occasionally find it useful to show clips / entire films on DVD. Occasionally these are not rated U, although any material used is viewed by staff first and checked for suitability. We ask that if you have any queries, or do not wish your child to see these materials, that you let us know. If we hear nothing, we will assume that this is acceptable.

Finally

If you would like to help in your child’s class generally and / or have special skills to offer such as cooking – please let us know! Your help will be welcomed and appreciated. Please keep in touch with us by making notes in your Planners – we also love to hear about your child’s achievements at home! Remember to use your WOW certificates and ask for more when you run out! Any questions can be asked too.

Dates

<p>TOPICS</p> <p>18.4.17 Term starts - Growth Mindset reminder 'Challenging myself and doing my best.' Looking after our class/school.</p> <p>18.4.17 – Animal information What am I? 2 weeks</p> <p>1.5.17 Animals – Where do I live? 2 weeks</p> <p>15.5.17 What do I look like? 2 weeks</p> <p>5.6.17 Rustle and splash! 4 weeks</p> <p>3. 7.17 Humans and senses 3 weeks</p>	<p>IMPORTANT EVENTS FOR YEAR 1/2</p> <p>25.4.17 Trip to Dartmoor Zoo</p> <p>1.5.17 Bank holiday</p> <p>15.5.17 Year 2 SATS tasks to be completed 2 weeks</p> <p>29.5.17 Half Term</p> <p>12.6.17 Year 1 Phonics tests</p> <p>19.6.17 Puppet workshop with Theatre Royal tbc</p> <p>20/21.6.17 Parents’ meetings</p> <p>23.6.17 Sports Day</p> <p>7.7.17 Year 2 Camp Night</p> <p>13.7.17 Meet your new teacher/class</p> <p>14.7.17 Interim reports</p> <p>21.7.17 End of term</p>
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