

Leopards, Lemurs and Panthers

Dear Parents/Carers

Hello and a warm welcome back to school and to the start of another exciting year!

Topic

We've got off to a great start already as the children have come back very motivated and keen to get started on this term's topic about World War 2. To enhance the children's knowledge and understanding, wherever possible we will endeavour to arrange a trip to support the classroom learning. Therefore, we are pleased to inform you that we will be taking all Year 5 and 6 on a day trip to Eden Camp. A letter has been sent out giving details.

To further enhance the children's learning about this topic, we have arranged for a local pensioner to visit the school and be interviewed by the children about what her life was like during World War 2. The children gain so much from these types of experiences so we would like to thank you for your continued support and encourage you to share your own skills and experience wherever possible.

Literacy

To further support our topic work, we will be linking our Literacy theme to World War 2. This will include a variety of recount text including: biographies, diaries and newspapers as well as historical story writing and war poetry.

All children will be encouraged to read both fiction and non-fiction text and complete reading tasks to aid their comprehension skills. This will be part of their weekly homework.

Numeracy

All children will be given a times table record card this week to help encourage them to learn their tables. A quick, mental recall of times table facts has a huge impact on children's ability to access the maths curriculum.

Wherever possible, we will endeavour to teach maths through real life context and provide opportunities for the children to apply their learning in other subjects such as interpreting data in science. Reading scales, number sequences and graphs are just some of the areas we will be focusing on this term.

Homework

To support our children further with their weekly homework, each Friday we will spend half an hour in the morning reviewing the previous week's homework and then set the next week's work. This should provide the time required to discuss the homework so all children know what is expected of them.

Each week they will be given some spelling homework which will involve them carrying out a spelling activity about a rule or spelling pattern they have learned in class. Their knowledge about these rules will be assessed every Friday through a range of strategies such as dictation, quizzes and games. In addition, they will be given Numeracy and Literacy homework and some project work which they can complete over a longer period of time.

A big thank you to those who have already volunteered to support in school with reading, swimming and library visits. If you would like to offer your services we are always happy to see new faces so please pop in and let us know.

Many thanks

Mrs Shipley

Miss Tilbury

Miss Baggley