



Big Cats Newsletter: Autumn 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half-term we are very excited that our whole school topic is The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling.

English

In English lessons, we will be spending three weeks exploring information texts. The children will be producing a jungle survival guide inspired by Baloo's teaching Mowgli of the ways of the jungle. We will finish the half term by writing a narrative inspired by The Jungle Book. Our spelling rules this term will be focussing on long vowel sounds. Spellings are a vital component in children's writing and it is expected that children consolidate their spellings during their weekly homework. Children will continue to be taught reading skills during daily sessions.

Maths

In Maths lessons, we will start the term by focussing on place value by reading, writing, ordering and comparing whole numbers and negative numbers. We will follow this with a unit of work on addition and subtraction. Our mental Maths focus across the school is number bonds. See the attached poster outlining our expectations for each year group. Please support us by practising number bonds to 100 and 1000 until your child has a quick mental recall.

Science

Our Science topic this term, to link in with our jungle topic, will cover these National Curriculum objectives:

- to identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways
- to compare the life cycles of different animals
- to describe reproduction in plants and animals
- to give reasons for classifying plants and animals

R.E.

This term we will be studying Hinduism including the rituals, Gods and importance of the River Ganges. We will learn about the festival of Diwali.

Geography

Rudyard Kipling was inspired to write The Jungle Book by his travels through India and the country will be our focus for Geography lessons this term. These are the objectives we will cover: ♣ describe and understand key aspects of:

- ♣ physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle
- ♣ human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water

P.E.

PE this term will be a games lesson on Thursday afternoons and swimming on Friday mornings. Please ensure children have the correct kit for each session with names on.

Art

We will be exploring and being inspired by the art of Rousseau this term. Please send your child in with a named oversized shirt or apron which they will use with Art to protect their school uniform.

Homework

Homework will be set on a Friday and handed in by the following Wednesday. Each week children will have a spelling homework plus either a Maths or English. Please continue to encourage children to use RM Easimaths and TT Rockstars regularly at home as this will make a huge difference to their learning in Maths.

Personal, Social and Health Education

Our unit is New Beginnings discussing rules, rights and responsibilities. Children will be working in groups on a Dream School project.

End of Term Celebration

Children will be working towards a final piece of work which we would like to share with you. Parents and Carers are invited to join us in this celebration on Friday 23rd October at 2:30pm.

Key dates

Monday 28th September – 2nd October: Year 6 residential