

Year 2's Newsletter Autumn 1

Welcome back. We hope that you have had a great summer holiday. If you have any concerns or questions, please speak to either your child's class teachers or teaching assistant, as our doors are always open and we are here to help.

LITERACY

This half term, we are studying the book 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' by Judith Kerr. We will be using this story to inspire our own story writing, which has a well-structured beginning, middle and ending. Combining our topic theme (Indian Spice) with our literacy, we will write non-chronological reports on an animal native to India. We will also be learning about the features of poetry and performing some of our favourites.

Homework for English will be set weekly, in homework books. The children will be expected to learn their spellings, use them in sentences and to complete a reading comprehension each week. In addition, please encourage your child to read daily (ideally for 15 minutes each day) and this is to be recorded in their planner, which should be brought to school each day.

Key vocabulary:

| beginning | middle | ending |
|-----------|------------|--------------|
| nouns | adjectives | verbs |
| past | present | noun phrases |

Mathematics

As you are now aware, the children will be working on groups of objectives linked to the following strands of maths throughout the rest of this year:

- Number and Place Value
- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions and Decimals
- Measurement
- Geometry (Shape and Space)
- Statistics (Data Handling)

This half term, all pupils in Year 2 will begin by learning about the number system and place value. Later in the half term we will look at addition and subtraction.

Homework for maths will be set using Mathematics on a weekly basis. If your child requires computer access in school time, please let us know.

Times tables will continue to be a key focus and you can help your child by practising these with them too.

Key vocabulary:

fraction hours minutes

SCIENCE

This half term Year 2 will be learning all about different animals in India and their habitats. We will look at classification systems, food chains and learn about how some animals in India are becoming endangered. For more details, see the curriculum overview page below.

Key Vocabulary:

habitat classification
omnivore, carnivore, herbivore
predator, prey
endangered





Other Curriculum Areas

PE - Team building games, agility, balance and coordination

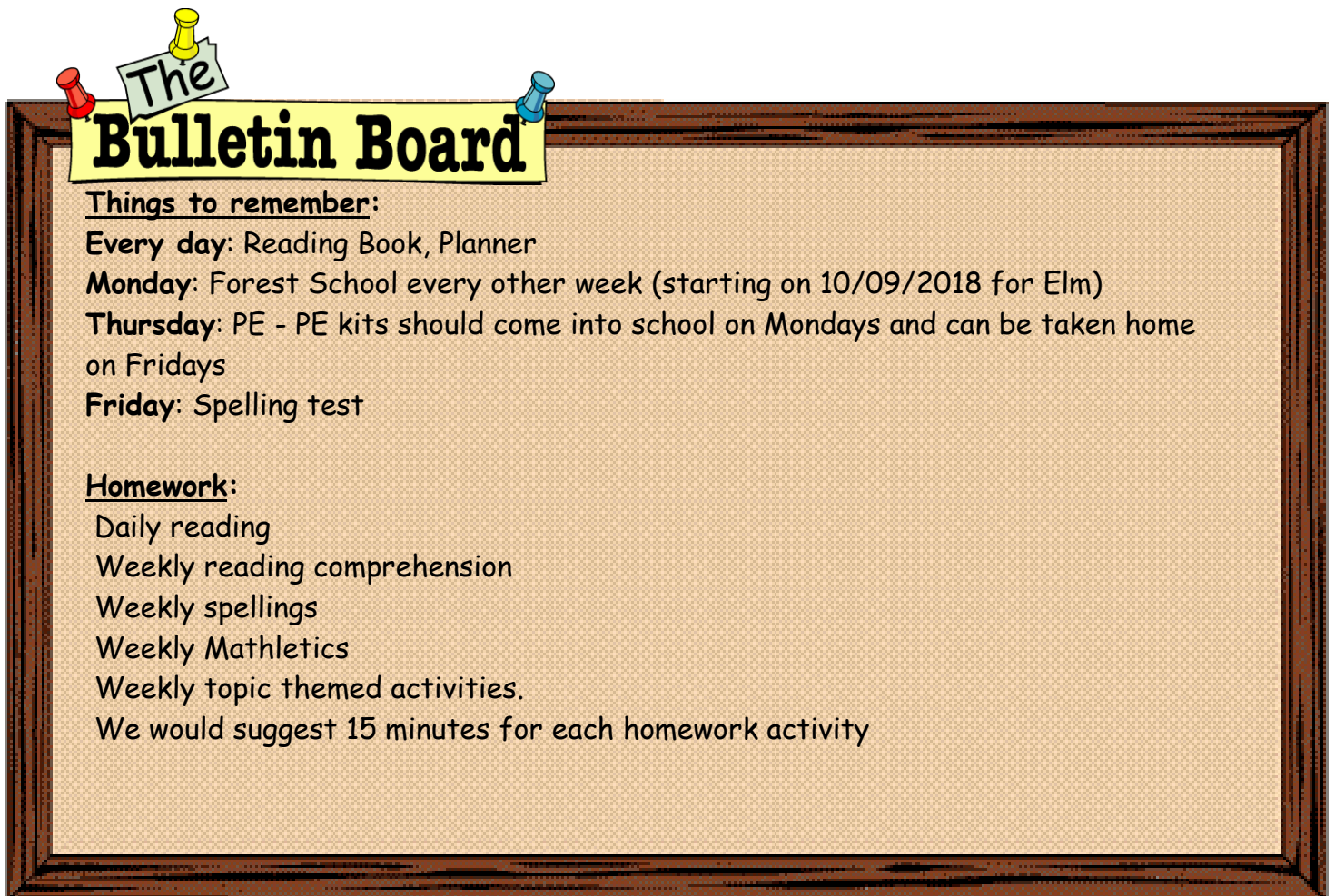
RE - We will be developing our understanding about the key principles of Hinduism and learning about the festival of Diwali.

PSHE - This half term we are focusing on our academy's core values Empathy, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility. We will be exploring what these mean and how we can demonstrate them through our words and actions.

Music - Hands, Feet, Heart is our theme, which sees us exploring the dimensions of music.

Computing - Our theme this half term is keeping safe on the internet, which we will continue to revisit throughout the year

For other areas of the curriculum, please see our overview on the next page.



The Bulletin Board

Things to remember:

Every day: Reading Book, Planner

Monday: Forest School every other week (starting on 10/09/2018 for Elm)

Thursday: PE - PE kits should come into school on Mondays and can be taken home on Fridays

Friday: Spelling test

Homework:

- Daily reading
- Weekly reading comprehension
- Weekly spellings
- Weekly Mathematics
- Weekly topic themed activities.

We would suggest 15 minutes for each homework activity

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

<https://www.coolkidfacts.com/india/>

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

www.teachyourmonstertoread.com



Let's take a trip to India and explore what it is like to live there. Where is it? What is it like? What animals live there? Let's find out!

Indian Spice



Where is India?

In geography, we will be learning about some of the human and physical geographical features of India. We will look at a day in the life of an average person and compare city and village life there. We will also compare our lives, here in Halifax, with that of the people of India.

As part of our learning, we will focus on developing our map reading and drawing skills, by identifying where India is located, in the world and compared to the UK. We will also further develop our understanding of compass points.

Our learning in geography will be linked to developing our English and maths skills, as we write facts and information texts and create pictograms.



Let's get arty!

In art, we will look at different Rangoli patterns and say which we like best. We will have a go at creating our own Rangoli patterns using different media including pastels and coloured rice.



Let's explore the amazing animals of India!

First, we will explore some of the different habitats that exist in India, looking at the Thar Desert, the Sundarbans, the Western Ghats, and the Gir National Forest and then learn about which animals live there. We will look at how animals can be sorted and grouped and how we can use classification keys to identify animals. After that, we will learn what different animals need to survive and explore food chains. Finally, we will consider what happens if food chains or habitats are disrupted and learn about which Indian animals are under threat.

What is Diwali?

This half term we learn about the Hindu festival of Diwali. To begin with, we will learn the story of Rama and Sita and retell it through drama; then writing. We will also learn how Hindus celebrate Diwali by giving gifts such as sweets and watching firework displays. In addition, we will learn about the importance of light and make our own clay divas.

