

# Elm Newsletter Autumn 2

Welcome back from the half term holiday. We are very much looking forward to the half term ahead. If you have any concerns or questions, please speak to either your child's class teacher or teaching assistant, as we are always happy to help. The best help you can give is to make sure your child attends every day on time. Attending every day enables them to build upon their learning and helps their understanding. Every school day is planned to help your child to achieve, so excellent attendance is vital. Please also ensure that your child has a healthy breakfast e.g. cereal, with lots of early nights, to ensure they can concentrate fully and give their best.

## LITERACY

This term we will be reading the books: 'The Way Home for Wolf' by Rachel Bright and 'The Polar Express' by Chris Van Allsburg. Inspired by 'The Way Home for Wolf' we will be writing information texts about polar animals and innovating our own story. We will also be thinking about the different vocabulary that is used to write a description. This will lead in to our work based around 'The Polar Express' where we will be writing setting descriptions and descriptive poems. We will also be creating a set of instructions and using extracts of the book and film to inspire our writing.

### Key vocabulary:

adjectives	letter formation
punctuation	full stops
capital letters	finger spaces
verbs	poems

## Mathematics

This term, we will continue learning about addition and subtraction and the relationship between them. Later in the term, we will begin looking at multiplication. You can help your child by practising counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

**Homework** for Maths will be set using Mathletics on a weekly basis (Mondays). If your child requires computer access in school time, or you would prefer paper copies, please let us know.

### Key vocabulary:

tens	ones	digit	more	less
add	plus	subtract	minus	
multiply	groups	equal		



## Phonics

Phonics will take place twice a day. In the morning, we will practise our sounds making sure we can read them speedily. We will also practise blending sounds together to read words and will be segmenting sounds to spell words.

In the afternoons, we will have a storybook session. Each group will have one storybook session a week and will bring their storybook home for the week after their session. Please keep reading books in your child's book bag, so they can be changed on the right day.

### Year 1 Science:

In Science, we will be exploring the different body parts associated with each sense. We will use these body parts to make observations. We will also be thinking about a range of everyday materials, describing them and testing which material is best for different purposes.

#### Key Vocabulary:

senses, observe, sight, smell, hear, touch, taste, test, predict, transparent, translucent, opaque, shadow

## SCIENCE

### Year 2 Science:

Animals, including humans. We will compare and classify animals and learn that animals vary in terms of their features, where they live and what they eat. Finally, this term, we will look at some animal life cycles, comparing and contrasting them.

#### Key Vocabulary:

Carnivore, herbivore, omnivore, fur, scales, feather, claws, beak, egg, frogspawn, tadpole





## Other Curriculum Areas

**Geography** - This term we are learning all about hot and cold places in the world. We will be learning about the seven continents and five oceans, where hot and cold places are located and what geographical features and animals we would find in these parts of the world.

**PE** - This term, we will be focusing on developing our gymnastics skills, practising balances, rolls, and jumps.

**PSHE** - This term, we will be learning about families and friendships, safe relationships and respecting ourselves and others.

**Computing** - This term, we will be using the computers to complete activities through our Teams accounts.

**The Bulletin Board**

PE is on a **Monday morning**.  
Please ensure children have their kit every week.

**Planners** should be handed in every day.  
Please record in here when your child has read at home and sign weekly.

**Homework** will be given out on a Monday and should be brought back to school the following Monday. This will include weekly spellings, topic homework, a reading activity/ comprehension and daily reading.

**Spelling tests** will be on a Friday.

Maths link: <http://uk.mathletics.com/>  
E-safety link: <http://www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online/>



**IMPORTANT DATES**

W/C 2/11/20 - Speak Out, Stay Safe Week  
9/11/20 - Parents' Evening 3 (3.30-6pm)  
11/11/20 - Remembrance Day Assembly  
13/11/20 - Children in Need Non-Uniform Day - £1 per family  
17/11/20 - Individual School Photos  
W/C 16/11/20 - Anti-Bullying Week  
W/C 16/11/20 - Learning about Road Safety in PSHE  
20/11/20 - Odd Socks Day to raise awareness of Anti-Bullying  
W/C 23/11/20 - Allergy Awareness Week  
W/C 30/11/20 - Advent and Christingle  
W/C 7/12/20 - Human Rights Week  
W/C 14/12/20 - Getting ready to keep ourselves safe over the holidays (NSPCC Pants Assembly/ Internet Legends Code)  
18/12/20 - Christmas Jumper Day

**Uniform** - Thank you for ensuring your child has the correct school uniform - they look very smart. Thank you also for your support in ensuring that make up, jewellery, fake tan and nail varnish is not worn for school. Small ear studs are permitted. As a reminder, dyed hair and tramline hairstyles are not permitted.

**Reading** - Elm class pupils should be reading for at least 15 minutes every day. When reading with your child, encourage them to sound out tricky words using their phonics and discuss any unfamiliar vocabulary. Stop them regularly, to check their understanding, as this will support them with their learning. Some questions you could ask: what are the characters thinking/feeling? How do you know? Books will be changed once a week. Children will bring home a 'storybook' and a 'book bag book' that matches their phonic knowledge.