

Our topic this half term: Meeting the Animals **Our books this half term:** Elmer, Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion, The Selfish Crocodile, Me in the Middle, It's a No Money Day, Two Places to Call Home, Do Not Lick this Book, Goodnight Everyone, The Easter Story. We're Going on an Egg Hunt

English	In writing, children will continue to work on sentences. They will learn how to write simple sentences spelling some words correctly and others phonetically. They will use their knowledge of digraphs to spell unfamiliar words and will be encouraged to read their writing back to check that it makes sense. Children are going to be encouraged to retell familiar stories using story maps and new vocabulary. In reading, children will learn how to be 'digraph' detectives. Picking out learnt digraphs before attempting to read. We will continue to build up the children's fluency in reading, encouraging children to segment and blend in their heads before reading aloud.	(ABC)
Maths	In Maths we will be creating our own odd and even zoos. We will learn how to pair up animals to work out when a number is odd or even. We will learn how to find and make doubles using different animal parts to help us. We will also continue our work of combining two groups. We are getting really good at subitising now (counting with our eyes and not our hands) and are beginning to use this skills when putting two quantities together. We will use these sentences to explain our Maths work this half term... "I have ____ groups of 2" "____ is odd/even because" "Double ____ is ____" "____ is double ____" "There are ____ here and ____ here, there are ____ altogether".	$2+3=5$ 
Science	As the seasons continue to change we will begin to search for the signs of Spring. This will take place during our forest school sessions where we will look closely for signs of new life in our outdoor area. We will begin to create our own picture collages of this using our class iPads. As we meet different animals in the stories that we read, we will learn more about their habitats, what they like to eat and why they have special characteristics. We already have some animal experts in our classroom who we will be using to teach the rest of the class!	
PSHE/RSE	This half term the class will learn about "healthy me". We will look closely at how to keep our bodies healthy through the foods we eat, personal hygiene and the importance of sleep. We will also be discussing the celebration 'Mothers Day' and have decided to choose some stories which introduce children to differences in families (see above). This includes diverse families, separated families and families with low income. We believe that it is important for our children to realise that not all families are the same.	
RE	In RE our key question will be 'What is Easter?'. The children have already been responding to this question and have told us lots about the Easter bunny, chocolate eggs and going on Easter egg hunts. The children already have a brilliant understanding of how we celebrate Easter so our RE sessions will be based around why it is celebrated. We will unpick the Easter story and will discuss which objects symbolise Easter and why e.g. hot cross buns, the cross and chocolate eggs.	
PE	We are working so hard with our fundamental movement skills and are learning to continue to perfect our jumping, hopping, running, throwing and catching skills. This half term our focus will be on catching. We will start with balloons and scarves before moving on to soft balls and shuttlecocks. We will learn when to throw under arm and when to throw over arm and will continue to work on accuracy using our opposite throwing hand and opposite foot to help us.	
Music	In Music we will learn how to use instruments within a song. We will continue to sing favourite nursery rhymes including old Macdonald, row row row your boat and the hockey cockey. Children will need to use their listening skills to hear the pulse of a song to know when to play their instruments at the correct time. We will do this using the Glockenspiels... it's going to be very noisy!	
History	History will continue to developed in the way that we question children throughout the day. Children need to continue to develop their speech and language to recognise when to use the past tense. We do this by asking the children about what they have done in the past. This can include something that they did over the weekend, the day before or an hour ago!	
Computing	We have noticed that the children often find using the iPads difficult for taking photographs and videos. We are therefore going to be providing lots of opportunities for the children to take photographs of their own work. Children are learning how to change the photograph function into a video function and in some cases are learning how to use the drawing tool to edit their photographs.	
Geography	This half term Geography will be taught through the stories that we choose. The children have been introduced to various animals through the stories that we have chosen. We will explain to the children where these animals live and will compare them to places that we have discussed in our previous topic.	
Art	This week we have begun our Art projects by contributing to the young seaisiders competition. We have decided to look at the work of Paul Cezanne who is an Artist that is well known for his still life work. We will create our own still life compositions and will learn how to draw these onto a canvas. We will then use watercolours to paint our outlines. We have already explored different media and have decorated our own miniature Elmer. These Elmer's will be added to our still life drawings once they are complete.	

Our enrichment this half term: We will be inviting Mums, Grandmas, Aunties etc to come and visit us as we host our Mothers Pamper Day. This will take place on Wednesday 13th March 1.30pm. Keep an eye out for more information!