North Elmham CEVC Primary School

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Whales Class Newsletter - Spring 1

Welcome to the Spring term! We would like to wish you all a belated 'Happy New Year'. It has been wonderful to see the children settle quickly back into the school routine and we look forward to an exciting term ahead.

Money, money, money

In maths we have been focusing on using money to add different amounts and looking at ways of making the same amounts, by using different coins and notes.



It would be really helpful if the children could have more 'real-life' experiences of handling money. Perhaps they could try adding up any spare change you have around the house, or paying for something at the shop, or even setting up a shop game. Any exposure would help to broaden their general understanding of the different values of coins and notes and how we can combine them to make different values.

Timetables (YR2s)
We will then be moving on to looking out our times tables, focusing on the 2, 3, 5 and 10's. Any practice at home to learn these would be greatly appreciated.

Yr1s will continue to count forwards & backwards in 2s, 5s and 10s.

Fairy Tales

This half term we will be focusing on fairy tales in English.



Already the children have demonstrated a good understanding of what makes up a fairy tale and can retell many of the classic tales, talking confidently about characters and settings.

Over the next few weeks we will be orally retelling the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff, using actions to help us remember the key words and phrases.

This retelling is a really important step in children learning to internalise a story (knowing it inside and out) before we then go on to imitate the story and eventually innovate on a story to create our own versions.

Try retelling, reading or watching some fairy tales at home.

PE

PE days are **Mondays** & **Wednesdays**.

Just a reminder to label/re-label all clothes and kit, including trainers.

Spellings

Please ensure that the grey spelling books are in school on a **Monday**, so we can then stick in new spellings and send them home. If you have misplaced the book, then please let us know.

February Half Term: 12th - 16th February

Seasonal Changes



The changing seasons will be the focus in our science, music and art sessions this half term. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Randle in every Thursday to share her art expertise with the class. The children are using different mediums and techniques to create birch trees through the seasons, we can't wait to see the outcome.

The children have been discussing changes they notice from season to season, with a particular focus on the different types of weather. We will be keeping a close eye on the temperature, rainfall and wind speed over the next few weeks and finding ways of recording these. We will also explore how and why daylight hours change throughout the year.

Seasons will also be the focus in our music lessons - this week we found out about Antonio Vivaldi and his famous violin concertos - the Four Seasons.

Bring on the sunshine!

Adventure Reading Map

We have been really pleased to see the enthusiasm surrounding our new 'Adventure Reading Map' initiative. Children have been talking excitedly about the stories and recommending them to their friends. Remember for every book you read from the map you can earn a sticker.

We found that last week the stickers are rather large, so perhaps they could be stuck around the map or in home/school diaries or we are just in the process of printing a sheet you could use - will hand these out ASAP. Once you have read 5 books, please let us know so we can award certificates.

Big Schools' Bird Watch - 27th- 29th January

We have signed up to take part in the 'Big Schools' Bird Watch'. Next week we will be preparing our outdoor environment to welcome our local birds, so we can count them as part of the RSPBs Big Bird Watch.

If you have any cardboard tubes (so we can make bird feeders), bird food etc that you would like to donate, than we would be very grateful.

If you have any questions or concerns then please come and see us in class or make an appointment via Mrs Chambers in the office.