

# Mansfield Primary Academy

## The Nightingales' Class Newsletter



### Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and New Year. The Nightingales have lots of exciting and engaging work to dive into during the Spring term. I'm looking forward to continuing to work with you all and your children!

Our new topic, will be focusing on 'Rainforests'. The children will have the opportunity to investigate the key question 'Do we need to protect our rainforests?' This will be an exciting time for the children as they learn about different rainforests around the world, animals and plants. The children will develop their knowledge in English by writing non chronological reports about rainforests, become historians learning about the Romans and become scientists by investigating plants and living things.

### Times Table Rock Stars

We will still be using Time Table Rockstars to practice our time tables. As it is an important focus throughout the year for children to learn their times tables to 12 and the division inverse. There will be lots of opportunities for children to practice their tables in fun and engaging activities. Alongside this, parental involvement will also be very important for your child to be successful.

### English

This term, linking to our topic 'Rainforests', we will be reading the text 'The Great Kapok Tree'. In reading, the children will be analysing the text, investigating new vocabulary and analysing the grammar used in the book to understand the effect it has on the reader, and making inference and prediction on what they have read.

We will also be investigating the topic title - **Do we need to protect our rainforests?** Where the children will:

- Write a detailed non chronological report on deforestation.
- Investigate the use of poetry.
- Ask questions to improve their understanding
- Draw inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justify inferences from evidence
- Write a persuasive letter to support our topic question
- Write their own adventure stories.

### Rainbow Grammar

We will be continuing using Rainbow Grammar throughout our pieces of writing this term. The children will build on their previous knowledge and what they have already learnt, so we can continue to improve our grammar, sentence structures and progression in writing.

## Maths

This term we will be continuing working on our Math No Problem scheme. We will be continuing with multiplication and division, delving deeper into division and word problems. The children will continue to use their prior knowledge of place value to support them throughout their learning.



The children will continue to learn their time tables to support them throughout their Maths. It is important for children to be practicing their time tables to help support their knowledge of recalling multiplication facts and their division fact families. This will help consolidate previous learning and support new learning.

### Maths Vocabulary

Multiplication, division, altogether, commutative, divisor, dividend, times, sum.

**Please help your child to learn the above vocabulary as it is essential they understand this.**

## Spellings and Homework

Spellings will be given out on a Friday and tested the following Friday. Please support your child with practising their spellings.

Homework will be given out on Friday and collected on Thursday the following week. It is important for your child to complete this as it will help support them towards future learning.

### Reading books

It is a requirement that every child brings their reading diary into school. Children should read at least 4 x a week and signed by an adult. Please ensure you write a comment in your child's reading diary so we are aware of the page they are up to or when they have completed their book, otherwise they will not be able to change it.

It is your child's responsibility to change their reading book once an adult has checked their reading diary.

## P.E Kits and Swimming

PE will be on a **Friday** and Swimming on a **Wednesday**, so please ensure that your child has their



PE / Swimming kit in school on this day. However, PE could take place at any time, so it's easier if your child brings their PE kit in on a Monday and leaves it in school all week to take home Friday for washing, ready for the following week. All children must have the correct school PE uniform.

## Science

Throughout this term, we will be looking closely at plants and animals. We will conduct experiments and use our investigation skills to look into different scientific topics.

## Dates for your diary

7th January - Back to school

11th -14th February— Book Fair 3.15pm— 4.00pm

14th February - Last day of Spring term 1

17th – 21st Half term break

24th February - Back to school

5th March— World Book Day

3rd April - Break up for Easter

20th April - Back to school

**Please check newsletters/website for extra dates**

We look forward to working with you and your child this half term.

*Miss Bacon and Mrs Draycott*