

South End Infant School

Year 2 Newsletter - September 2024



We would like to welcome all of you to Year Two; it has been lovely to have the children returning to school, ready to learn. Our topic of 'Meerkat Travels' is well under way and our study of the text 'Meerkat Mail' by Emily Gravett is expanding our sketching skills in art, helping us learn the continents and oceans in geography and developing our knowledge of music and dance from around the world. Look out for a letter regarding some special visitors!



English

At the beginning of the new school year, the children found a suitcase belonging to a meerkat called Sunny. This led us to learning our model text of a letter. As we progress, we will be learning about the structure and language of a letter. Following our 'Talk 4 Writing' format we are focussing on the basic punctuation of capital letters and full stops, alongside commas in expanded noun phrases. We are also learning to write questions and how to use the past tense. We are working hard on broadening your children's spoken and written vocabulary by expanding their range of adjectives.

Our second writing unit will be report writing introduced through a non-fiction model text about hedgehogs. The children will then research meerkats and write their own report. The children will be learning how to write in the present tense and how to extend their ideas using conjunctions. The expectation is that basic punctuation will be embedded. In phonics, we have been revising previously taught spellings of phonemes by segmenting and blending vigorously to ensure the children can read and spell new words confidently.

Maths

Our learning has begun with a consolidation of numbers to one hundred; we have used practical resources of dienes, numicon and tens and ones counters to reinforce the understanding of place value alongside representing numbers in numerical and written form. We will be moving on to counting in twos, fives and tens. The reinforcement of number bonds of ten will then lead us to finding ways to make one hundred.

Our final step this term will be the addition and subtraction of ones and tens to and from a two digit number. The children will be introduced to a range of strategies, alongside using practical apparatus in order to develop their confidence and mastery within these concepts.

Science

We are exploring the properties and uses of materials. Our model text has led to the children testing materials for their suitability to make an umbrella for Sunny. The children will then work in pairs to design, make and test their umbrellas. Their evaluation of their work will use the scientific language related to the features of materials.

Computing

Through the Purple Mash learning platform we are using the art programme to create works in the style of Impressionism, Pointillism, Mondrian, Surrealism and an African artist, Esther Mahlangu. We are learning about online safety and how to save and retrieve our work.

Your continued support

- Listen to your child read for ten minutes every day with a focus on fluency. Please sign the reading log each time you read. Staff will comment in the reading diaries to inform you of possible next steps.
- If you have any concerns to discuss with the class teacher could you please try to do this at the end of the day as phonics begins promptly at 9.
- Practise counting forwards and backwards 1-100 from any given number. Practise writing any given number to 100 in numerals and words. Can your child tell you how many tens and ones are in any given number?
- Please ensure that children have a school book bag and not an oversized bag please as space in classrooms is limited.
- Please ensure all jumpers and cardigans are named as these items are easily lost when unnamed.