

South End Infant School

Year 2 Newsletter – April 2026

English

In English, our learning will be based on Elf Road. The children will learn to recall a shorter version of the text, using actions. They will explore the text and take part in speaking, listening and drama activities. During daily writing tasks, the children will be expected to say each sentence out loud, before writing it. They will be expected to punctuate each sentence with a capital letter and either a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark, use their phonics to spell words, leave a space between each word and form their letters accurately. At all times, independence will be encouraged and praised. We will be looking at setting descriptions, exciting adjectives and how to edit our work to make it better before innovating our own story. In SPAG lessons we will be looking at contractions, homophones, near homophones and spellings.

In our daily handwriting lessons, the children will begin by practising previously taught target words using the correct joins. They will then continue to learn to join their letters in their writing. Children will learn the 'ground-joins' (e, c, k) into letters from the Window Cleaner family (i, l, t, u), Jumper family (h, b, r, n, m, p), Abracadabra family (c, o, a, d, g, q), Slider family (v, w, k) and Fisher family (j, y, f) They will practise these joins in target words and in sentences. They will be expected to transfer these skills to all writing across the curriculum.

Maths

Our first unit of maths for the summer term will be about fractions. We will begin by looking at parts and wholes and equal and unequal parts. We will practise recognising and finding $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ of shapes and quantities. We will learn the words numerator (number above the line showing how many parts we are looking at) and denominator (the number below the line showing the number of parts the shape or amount has been divided into). There are close links to division so it will help your child to know how to halve numbers and then halve them again to find a quarter of a number. We will look at unit fractions where the numerator is 1 and non-unit fractions such as $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{2}{3}$. Your child will find $\frac{3}{4}$ of a number by finding a quarter and multiplying by 3. Use of bar models will support their workings out. By the end of the unit, your child should be able to work out $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of amounts. They will also be introduced to equivalent fractions with the key knowledge needed being that $\frac{1}{2}$ is equal to $\frac{2}{4}$. Later on in the term we will be learning time. Please practise learning key facts such as minutes in an hour, hours in a day and practise reading an analogue clock (one with minute and hour hands).

Phonics

In Phonics, the children will continue to learn to read and spell words from the extended code. Here are the sounds, with some example words that we will be teaching this term:

/h/ < h wh > **hand**, **whole**

/k/ < c k ck ch cc > **acorn**, **anchor**, **book**, **brick**, **raccoon**

/r/ < r rr rh wr > **carrot**, **rhino**, **rock**, **wrist**,

The children will learn to segment (spell) and blend (read) a variety of words containing each sound.

Science

In science, the children will be learning about plant growth. By the end of the unit they should be able to recall that seeds have all the necessary parts inside for plants to grow and that they need water and warmth to germinate. They should be able to sequence the stages of a plant's life cycle and recognise the importance of healthy plant growth. They will work scientifically by: setting up comparative tests, planning observations and measurements, use rulers to record and measure stem height, record plant growth data in a table, use a magnifying glass to observe and compare plants and draw diagrams to represent stages of a plant's life cycle. **Please refer to the attached Knowledge Organiser to support your child's learning in science as this contains the knowledge your child should know and be able to recall.**

History

In history our unit is called 'What is a monarch?' By the end of the unit your child should be able to identify some of the monarch's roles and explain that a king or queen is crowned in a special ceremony called a coronation. They will use sources to explain how William the Conqueror became King of England. And how he kept order and conquered England. They will explain how castles have changed over time. And make comparisons between past and present monarchies. **Please refer to the attached Knowledge Organiser to support your child's learning in history.**

Art and Design

This half term, the children will be focussing on 'African Art'. They will be inspired, by the artist 'Esther Mahlangu', to create colourful and bold geometric patterns. The children will also be sketching African animals, building upon knowledge of various lines and textures, and will use these to create animal silhouette scene pictures.

How You Can Support Your Child

- Please listen to your child read daily. Minimum expectation 3x week. We are so close to the end of their infant school journey and being age related readers will do them no end of good when they make the transition to the junior school.
- Use the knowledge organisers and information included in this newsletter to help your child learn the required knowledge and skills for their age.

