

Summer Term

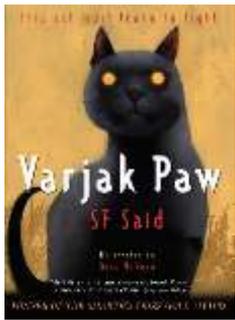
Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you enjoyed your Easter Holiday being able to spend time as a family and meet up with friends, with everything finally seeming more normal. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your patience during last term and I'm looking forward to the children finally getting to perform 'What's the Crime Mr Wolf?' to you all as they have been working super hard at learning their lines and performing. We have another busy term planned, filled with all sorts of exciting and interesting new things for your child to learn and discover.



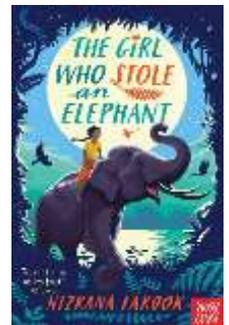
English

Reading continues to be a priority in class, the children are expected to read daily at home and in class. It is important that children choose a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts that engage and challenge them. To provide the children with high quality texts in class we have a daily reading session linked to a core text for the term and within lessons we read other text types that linked with the core text. These books are carefully selected for their high-quality vocabulary and links to other subjects within the curriculum. I love reading to the class, to see them fully immersed and engaged in the story and desperately wanting to hear what happens next. For the first half of the term our book is 'Varjak Paw' by SF said and then 'The Girl who Stole an elephant' by Nizrana Farook in the second half term.



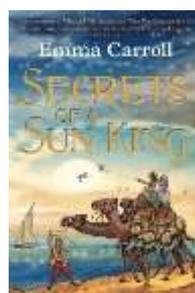
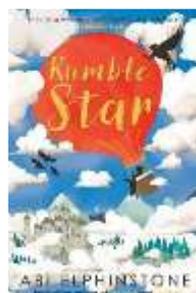
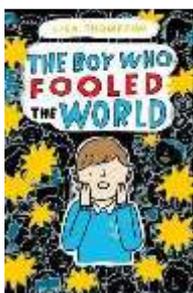
With both of these books we will go on exciting adventures. Varjak Paw focuses on the adventures of a pampered pet cat that has always been the outcast of his family. After hearing about the Way – a secret martial art for cats by his grandfather, Varjak ventures beyond the garden wall having spent all his life in an old house. Will it be how Varjak imagines outside of the house?

Whereas, in 'The Girl who Stole an Elephant', a young girl called Chaya is driven by a deep sense of fairness and the desire to help the neediest who live around her in a Sri Lankan village. Following the theft of the Queen's jewels with her friend getting arrested, she pledges to help him escape. She does so in a dramatic way – on the back of an elephant. Will Chaya manage to restore a fairer and kinder way of life to the community?



I am really pleased with those children that have continued to take on the class 'around the world' reading challenge. Please encourage your child to choose one of these books to read, we have some of the titles in class already and we also have a display of books liked to the core texts that we have read in class each term.

For this term I am adding these 3 books to the display which can also be found on the recommended reads on the website along with other books too. 😊



To ensure we continue to improve on our reading speed and accuracy, I will add a folder of fluency reading texts on Showbie for this term. These are for you to spend 1-minute reading, monitor how accurately and fluently you can read them. The best way is to read them two or three times in one go so that you become familiar with the text, this will increase your reading speed. Remember, even with fluency you still need to pause for punctuation and use expression to give meaning.

In Writing, we will write a news report and a first-person imaginative diary entry linking to our History learning on the achievements of Ancient Egyptians, a critical analysis of narrative poetry, an explanatory text linked to our Science learning and a third person adventure story. To write each genre successfully we focus on the grammar and spellings needed within our daily writing sessions.

Maths

As Mathematicians, we will be moving our understanding of fractions into decimals, looking at the relationship between fraction and decimals, comparing and ordering decimals. We then look at money, time, angles and shapes, symmetry and coordinates.

Continue to use TTRS as you all rock! We have now learned our 6, 7 and 9's and will continue to learn them in class so keep practicing all your time tables at home as well to improve your recall of both multiplication and division facts. The children should be going on TTRS for at least 20 minutes a day and playing Soundcheck games to prepare for the Multiplication Check in June.



Curriculum Subjects

Summer term holds many exciting new learning opportunities ahead for the children as we continue to teach the curriculum in blocks. We also start the term with a trip to the School Farm and Country Fair which will be an enriching day for the children and links with our Science and Geography learning from the year.

As scientists, this half term we will understand Sound and in Summer 2 we will understand States of Matter to connect what we learned about the Water Cycle in the Spring Term. These are the questions we will answer first:

Sound

1. What is sound?
2. How does sound travel?
3. What is the pitch and loudness of sound?

As historians, we will learn about the Achievements of Ancient Egyptians. These are the questions we will be beginning with:

The achievements of the earliest civilisations and a depth study of ancient Egypt

1. Who were a few of the earliest civilisations and what did they achieve?
2. Who were the ancient Egyptians and where did they live?
3. The Old Kingdom: who was significant and what did they achieve?
4. The Middle Kingdom: who was significant and what did they achieve?
5. The New Kingdom: who was significant and what did they achieve?
6. Achievements: how and what did the ancient Egyptians write?
7. Gods: What did the ancient Egyptians believe in?
8. Evidence: What do we know about Tutankhamun?

In Geography, we will retrieve our knowledge about the features of rivers and we will carry out a River Study of the River Nile, to know where the Nile is located and how important it was for the Egyptians civilisation. In the second half term we will learn and use fieldwork and mapping skills.

Other subjects overview

In Art next half term, we will become sculptors, the children's work will be influenced by Alberto Giacometti. The children will explore proportion and scale by creating images of the human form. They will also use shape and colour to create the illusion of movement. Then we will focus on our painting skills using knowledge of how to make tints and tones to create an ombre effect with paint.

In DT we will learn about mechanisms to answer the question; 'How many ways are there to open a door?' To answer the question the children will investigate how hinges work then the children will select a range of modelling materials and tools to make their own hinged products, evaluating and modifying them throughout. Then in the second half of term we will be covering food and nutrition and answering the question; 'Is cheap food always worse for you?'

In Music, our new topic is the song 'Blackbird' by the Beatles, which is all about civil rights.

In Computing, we will focus on computing systems and networks through collaborative learning. Children will understand that software can be used collaboratively online to work as a team, know what type of comments and suggestions on a collaborative document can be helpful and know that you can use images, text, transitions and animation in presentation slides.

In PSHE, we will use our Jigsaw Jazz to learn about 'Healthy Me' focusing on friends, group dynamics, smoking and alcohol, healthy relationships and celebrating inner strength and assertiveness.

In RE the children will continue to study Buddhism considering the 8-fold path to think about the question 'What is the best way for a Buddhist to lead a good life?'

PE

For this term, Deer class will have PE again on a Wednesday and a Thursday. Thursday's session will be with myself, this will be outside as much as the weather allows so, please ensure the children have suitable clothing for Athletics focusing on Pentathlons. Wednesdays is when the children need to come into school all day in their P.E. kit and the session will be outdoors with a Sports Coach for cricket lessons.

On both days, note that all PE kit must conform to the uniform policy. Furthermore, earrings are to be removed or not to be worn on PE days and long hair needs to be tied back. Finally, as always, please ensure that every item of PE kit and school uniform are clearly named and in a small bag that does up to avoid the kit falling out of the carrier bag or rucksack on to the floor. Ideally a drawstring bag is best.

Homework

The children are expected to read on a daily basis, use TTRS using Soundcheck regularly and go on Spelling Shed to practice spelling rules learnt in class.

Final note

It was wonderful to see and meet many of you in person at Parents Evening and I look forward to seeing you at the Year 3 and 4 play. Remember that if you have any queries, concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to ask me at the end of the day or by sending a Dojo message.



Best wishes,
Miss Jolland 😊