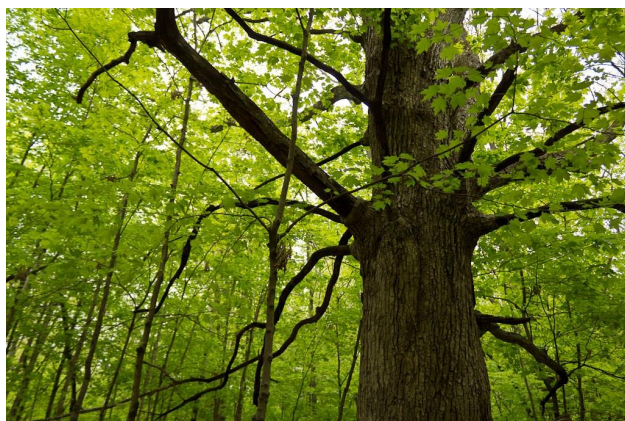


Elm Autumn 1 Newsletter

Welcome



Welcome everyone to a new school year.

We hope you had a wonderful summer and enjoyed spending quality time together as a family. The children have told us all about their many adventures and holidays they have been on. They have settled brilliantly into their new year groups and are adapting well to new routines. We are very proud of them!

This half term is a busy one with lots of exciting learning planned and extra curricular opportunities. Everyday we work closely as a team and we are here to answer any questions you may have. Please do come and speak to us or alternatively please contact us on the class email which is elm@astley.worcs.sch.uk

We look forward to an exciting and busy half term ahead.

Mrs Wilcox, Mrs Mills, Mrs Mallen- Freeman, Mrs Payton & Mrs Hurst

Within this newsletter, we will outline:

- Areas of learning we will be covering this half term and routines.
- Information about Seesaw
- Support at home
- Key dates and reminder

Areas of learning

English

The Minpins by Roald Dahl is the story that will inspire our writing at the beginning of this half term. It is a delightful story and the children have fully engaged with the text so far. It is a story about a young boy called Billy who sets off into the forest searching for adventure. We will be exploring Roald Dahl's excellent vocabulary and use it to inspire our own writing with a focus on sentence accuracy, spelling and handwriting while developing our reading out loud with fluency and expression.

Maths

This half term we will be focusing on number. We will practise identifying the place value of each digit in a 3 or 4 -digit number (1000s, 100s, 10s, 1s), compare and order numbers up to 1,000 and beyond, identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations and solve number problems and practical problems involving these ideas. We may even begin some work on the written strategies for addition.

Science

'Do animals and humans need the same things to survive?' is the question we will be answering by the end of the half term based on what we find out. We will be building on any prior knowledge of nutrition and understanding the main functions of skeletons and muscles in animals and humans.

R.E.

In RE, we are exploring the questions, 'What do Hindus believe God is like?' We will identify some Hindu deities and say how they help Hindus describe God, make simple links between beliefs about God and how Hindus live and identify some different ways in which Hindus worship.

Geography

Our enquiry question for this half term is- What do the geographical features tell us about Italy? We will be using maps and atlases to explore geographical features of Europe. Italy is our focus and we will explore the country and make comparisons with other countries.

Art

We will explore how artists use charcoal in their work, experiment with the types of marks that we can make with charcoal, using my hands as well as the charcoal. We will work on larger sheets of paper, and make loose, gestural sketches using our body. We will share our work with our classmates and talk about what we felt was successful and what we might like to try again.

French

Numbers and Names is our unit for this half term.

Computing

We will begin the half term recapping what we need to do to keep ourselves safe online. Then, we will move onto developing children's understanding of digital devices and how the internet works as part of a network.

Music

Violins- We will be learning how to play the violin as a class, compose simple music and learning to read simple musical notes.

P.E.

Please ensure your child has their P.E. in school. Sessions will be on a Monday and Wednesday. As the weather begins to cool, the children will need jogging bottoms or leggings and a plain hoodie or jacket. Please also provide a spare pair of socks for those who wear tights to school. Please ensure that all PE clothing is clearly labelled.

Forest School

Forest School will be alternating Tuesday's. Please ensure children are sent to school in appropriate clothing. Year 3's first forest school session will be on Tuesday 10th September and Year 4's first session will be on Tuesday 17th September.

Seesaw

This week your child will have been sent home with two logins for Seesaw. The first one sent home is the family login and the second one is your child's individual login. The children's login has also been stuck into their reading diaries.

Please can you ensure that you have connected to your child's journal with the family login as soon as possible. Through Seesaw we will share with you what children have been up to in class and it is also a way for you to share with us what the children have been up to at home with regards to their learning. We will also send you messages, reminders and prompts through Seesaw.

Supporting your child at home

We really appreciate all of the help and support that you give your child at home linked to their learning in school. Initially we ask for your support with reading and times tables.

Reading - It is important that children read regularly at home (at least 4 x per week) Reading diaries are checked daily by an adult in class. If your child would like to record what they have read and what page number they have reached they are welcome to do so. If you could then please add a comment or initial their book to show you have checked and agree with what they have written.

Times tables - Learning the times tables is a big part of the Maths curriculum. Children being able to confidently recall their times tables enables them to spot patterns, solve problems and link different mathematical ideas together. We use different strategies and games to practise them in class on a daily basis. All of the children have a log in for TT Rock Stars (TTRS). Please support them to access this safely at home to practise their times tables on a regular basis. We are able to monitor how well children are doing and will personalise which times tables children need to practise.

Based on the curriculum, by the end of Year 4, children are expected to be able to speedily recall all the times tables facts up to 12×12 .

As we progress throughout the year, we will let you know about other things that you can do at home to support your child's learning.

Key dates and reminders

Tuesday 10th September - Forest School for Y3

Tuesday 17th September - Forest School for Y4

Week beginning 16th September - After school clubs start

Friday 27th September - MacMillan Afternoon Tea

Friday 25th October - INSET Day - School closed to children

