



Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back, I hope you have had a lovely break. We have some exciting things planned for this half term and some information that we would like to share with you. Please do ask me if you would like to know anything more about what we are learning or doing this half term.

Have a great half term of learning.
Amy
Class Teacher

Wriggle and Crawl!

This term in Yellow Class our topic is Wriggle and Crawl! We will be reading a range of fiction and non-fiction books based on insects and nature. This topic is science based in which we will focus on microhabitats, food chains, adaptations and life cycles.

A habitat is a place where plants and animals live. Habitats must have everything the plants and animals need to survive, including water, air, food and shelter. Animals are adapted to survive in the habitat in which they live.

Woodland habitat

Some minibeasts live in microhabitats. A microhabitat is a small habitat. Under a log or stone can be a microhabitat.

Minibeasts can be identified and grouped by their features, such as colour, shape, or the number of legs they have. A key can help us to identify minibeasts. Look at the example below.

Minibeasts use different ways to protect and defend themselves from predators that want to eat them. They may use camouflage, mimicry, warning colours or play dead to trick predators. Some minibeasts use stings, bites or sprays to protect themselves.

Camouflage
The praying mantis looks like a leaf so it can't be seen by predators.

Mimicry
The spots on a peacock butterfly mimic the eyes of larger animals.

A food chain shows how animals get energy from food. Plants get energy from sunlight. Animals get energy from eating plants or other animals. A food chain always starts with a producer, such as a plant, and ends with a predator, such as a fox.

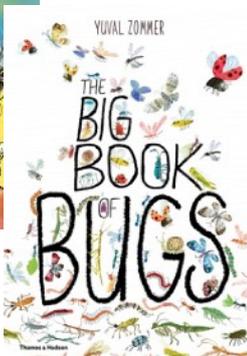
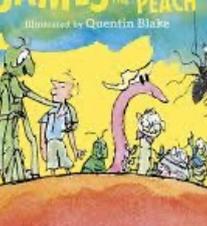
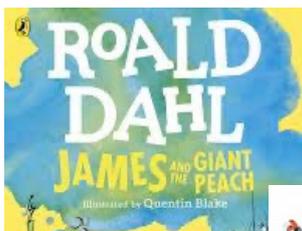
Honey bees are insects. They are important because they collect pollen and carry it from flower to flower. This helps plants to make seeds so new plants will grow. Honey bees also collect nectar from flowers and use it to make honey.

The honey bee life cycle has four stages. These are the egg, larva, pupa and adult stages.

The adult bee comes out of the pupa.
The larva forms into a pupa.
The queen honey bee lays an egg.
A larva hatches out of the egg and grows.

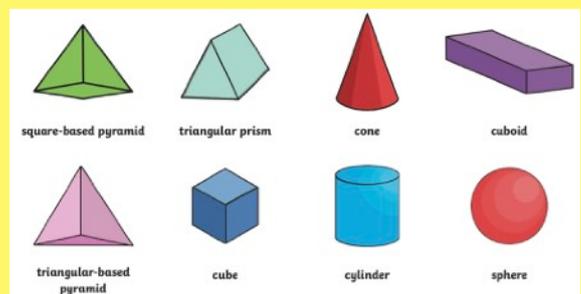
English

In English this term we are focusing on a few different books. In reading sessions we will focus on 'James and the Giant Peach' and explore the vocabulary of the book. We will also read and explore others books such as 'Winters sleep' and 'The Big Book of Bugs'. The children will have a go at using their iPads for independent research to create a non-chronological report about insects.



Maths

In Maths this half term we will cover three core units. The first unit is 'Add and subtraction' in which the children will learn various strategies to use when adding and subtracting such as 'round and adjust' and 'make ten'. The second unit is 'Money' in which the children will learn to recognise coins and money and be able to calculate change. The final unit this term is 'Faces, shapes and patterns'. In this unit we will compare and sort 2D and 3D shapes and use language to describe position, direction and rotation.



Science

This term in Science we are learning about animals but specifically minibeasts. We will research minibeasts lifecycles, food chains and how they protect themselves against predators. We will also look at honey bees and why they are so important.

Topic

This term in topic lessons we will be focusing on minibeasts. We will look at a range of different minibeasts and go on a mini beast hunt in Archbishops park nearer to the end of the topic. We will also focus on nature. We will think about how and why we recycle.



PSHE

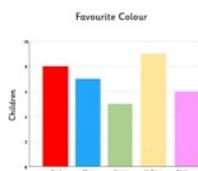
This term in PSHE we will be looking at 'Respecting rights'. In this topic we will look at our human rights and how we can respect others.

R.E.

This term in R.E our topic is 'Communities'. We will be discussing what an ideal community would be and what features it may have. The children will have a chance to explore what communities they are apart of and how this are similar or different.

Computing

This term in computing we are going to be focusing on data handling. We will collect and represent data in various ways including pictograms and bar graphs.



FRUIT	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO CHOSE IT
PEAR	5
WATERMELON	2
ORANGE	1
APPLE	1
BANANA	1

Dates for Spring 2

Tues 22nd March	Trip to Archbishops Park
Tues 22 March Thurs 24 March	Parents evening
Fri 1st April	Last day of half term - 1.30pm Finish
Easter holidays Monday 4th April to Monday 18th April	
Tues 19th April	Back to school

Design Technology

This term in DT we will be focusing on puppets. We will be exploring different types of puppets such as finger puppets and rod puppets. We will learn the basics of sewing such as threading a needle and how to sew a running stitch. Finally we will design and make our finger puppets.



P.E.

This term in PE we will be focusing on gymnastics and basketball. In gymnastics we will be focusing on different balances and how to use apparatus safely. In basketball we will be learning to throw and catch balls accurately and confidently while learning the rules of basketball. Our P.E lessons are on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Handwriting

In handwriting I will be encouraging all children to have neat, joined up handwriting. Children with neat, joined up handwriting will receive a pen license which means they can use a pen for all their work.

Homework

Each MONDAY we collect in homework. Children will either complete work on their iPad (e.g. Maths) or use their exercise book. Check the page in their exercise book each week to make sure you know what you are doing. Exercise books will be checked by teachers during the week after homework is due. Please ensure children have learned their spellings before our test on Tuesdays.

Every day, children should complete their daily diet:

- read their reading book for at least 10 minutes
- Practise spellings

In addition, typically, the children do the following:

English: Ensure they know how to read and spell all high frequency words.

Maths: Complete homework on sumdog and practise times tables on times table rockstars.

