



English

We will be reading lots of different stories involving Elmer the Elephant and his friends. This will give us plenty of opportunities to explore a range of concepts and ideas within the PSED curriculum including thinking about how we can be a good friend and talking positively about ourselves and what we enjoy at school and at home.

We have learnt lots of letters and sounds and are concentrating on forming our letters correctly and using them in our independent writing. One of the ways we will do this will be by pretending to be jungle explorers and making notes of the things we spot in our pretend jungle!! We will also be concentrating our time on making sure our speech is clear through role play activities, retelling stories and giving each other instructions to follow.

This term is all about putting all our learning into practise. We have made a fantastic start and are ready to really motor on with regard to our reading, writing and maths. We raised almost £275 with the sponsored walk so will be able to buy some new resources to use as the weather gets warmer. Thank You Everyone!!!

Maths

In Reception we will be strengthening our understanding of place value by investigating numbers up to and beyond 20. We will concentrate on our understanding of language such as more/fewer, one more/one fewer, greater than, less than and equal to.

We will be creating lots of patterns using the colour idea from Elmer and talk about length, weight and size. You can help by playing lots of number games which involve counting forwards and backwards.

Basic counting skills are fundamental to all other mathematical skills so any counting activities you do at home will help to cement this learning.

**Elmer/Wild Animals
Winter & Spring**

Understanding the World

We are learning to be Scientists by investigating different questions about materials.

We will be exploring the feel of different objects and talk about what they are made from. We will be making 'feely' Elmer Elephants from different materials!! We will be thinking about the different places people and animals live in and finding out about some of the different traditions celebrated around the world. We may even have our own celebration based around the story of 'Elmer's Day'.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children love the making room so any small recycling boxes, tubes, tubs and bottles you have are always useful. This term they will be attempting to make wild animals!! In PE the children will be learning wild animal dance moves amongst a whole host of other opportunities.

Phonics

Reception will be concentrating on 'Phase Three' in their Phonics learning and will continue to bring word cards and games home for you to practise.

Please remember to help your child access the 'Teach your Monster to Read' App/Website which has lots of games that will help them to practise and consolidate the skills and sounds they are learning. If you need any help- just ask a member of the team.

As always, daily reading with your child really helps them to practise the skills they have been learning in class. Your help with this is vital as we all know practise makes perfect!

HELP PLEASE!!! We are desperate for volunteers to hear the children read. If you are interested and have an hour or two to spare, please come and see a member of the team. Don't Forget to add the lovely activities you are doing at home to your child's Tapestry account - We love sharing these in class!! Thanks!