

Elephant Parent Letter - Term 5 2025

Dear Parents/carers,

A very warm welcome back to term 5.

I am pleased to share an overview of what we will be learning this term and how you can support your child at home.

This term, we will be focusing on SATs practice to help prepare the children for the upcoming assessments. You can support your child at home by regularly practising number bonds. Please work with your child on number bonds to various amounts up to 100. For example, if they know that 3 and 7 make 10, they should also understand that 87 and 3 make 90. This kind of practice will really help to strengthen their understanding of addition and subtraction, especially when working across tens.

In English, please continue encouraging your child to read regularly. As they read, ask them questions about the text and prompt them to find specific words or answers within the story. This helps develop their comprehension skills and their ability to retrieve information from a passage.

If you'd like to do some additional SATs preparation at home, you can also print off free past SATs papers. These can be found by searching online for *SATs KS1 Maths Arithmetic and Reasoning*, and *English Paper 1 and Paper 2* on the official government website.

Thank you for your continued support!

For an overview of other subject areas for term 5 please see below:

English:

This term, we will be reading the exciting and imaginative story *George's Marvellous Medicine* by Roald Dahl. As we explore the book, we will be developing our writing skills in a variety of fun and creative ways. We will learn how to follow and write clear sets of instructions, just like George does when creating his own marvellous medicine. We will also write detailed character descriptions, focusing on how Roald Dahl uses language to bring characters to life. In addition, we will be learning about different types of pronouns and how to use them effectively in our writing. We'll also explore the power of alliteration and experiment with using it to make our own writing more lively and engaging.

Mathematics:

We will be covering units on fractions and time, while also revisiting addition and subtraction from Term 2 to ensure students are confident in these areas.

HOME: Please practice number bonds with various amounts up to 100. For example, if 3 and 7 make 10, children should also know that 87 and 3 make 90. This practice will greatly support their understanding of addition and subtraction across tens.

History:

In history, we will be looking at our key question 'What is a monarch?'. We will learn about

the role of monarchs, such as kings and queens. They'll explore how modern UK monarchs no longer have absolute power but share decision-making. The lesson covers coronations, including key steps and special objects used. Students will also study William the Conqueror's rise to power, Norman castles, and how both the monarchy and castles have evolved over time.

Science:

In Science, we will be investigating plant growth, focusing on seeds, bulbs, and the conditions needed for germination and healthy development. We will learn that seeds contain all necessary parts for growth: water, warmth, and light. We will revisit the plant life cycle and how humans influence plant growth in the environment.

Art:

In Art, we will explore sculpture and 3D work through creating clay houses. They'll learn to shape and decorate clay, make pinch pots, and design clay tiles with house features. The focus is on developing practical skills, including joining clay using scoring and slipping, rolling smooth surfaces, and adding patterns. We will plan and create clay house tiles with recognisable features and shapes.

PSHE:

We will continue from last term's *Citizenship and continue to look at friendships and boundaries*.

Music:

This term we will be looking at the unit 'Swing-a-long with Shostakovich'. Sing, swing, and sway your way through this unit on metre! Along the way, children will feel patterns of beats in their bodies, swinging in time with a partner and marking the beat using simple body percussion patterns. They will explore how beats are grouped and will devise their own body percussion patterns to demonstrate this. They will begin to identify different metres in familiar songs.

Reading:

Each child will have group reading sessions with a teacher or teaching assistant up to three times a week (this could be smaller group reading groups or whole class VIPERS). We encourage regular reading at home to develop fluency. Short, regular reading sessions, where adults model reading and children re-read sentences, are crucial for progress. Books will continue to be changed on a Friday. Please bring in reading books every day and aim to read with your child daily.

VIPERS – Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval, and Sequencing. Our focus will be on vocabulary and retrieval, with some elements of the other areas woven into the learning.

R.E.:

This term's R.E. lessons will focus on Judaism. Our focus question will be 'Who is Jewish and what do they believe?'

PE:

This term, PE will be on Tuesday mornings as well as Friday afternoons. Please ensure that all children have the correct PE kit. We will be focusing on dance and fitness. DANCE: Children will explore space and how their body can move to express an idea, mood, character or feeling. They expand their knowledge of travelling actions and their understanding of dynamics and expression. They will use counts of 8 consistently to keep in time with the music. FITNESS: With fitness children will explore and develop their agility, balance, co-ordination, speed and stamina.

Spellings:

We will continue to send new spellings home on Fridays, with a 'spelling test' the following Friday.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Kind Regards,

Mrs. Kidd