Marston Thorold's Primary School Newsletter

Yearly Newsletter 2025/26

HEDGEHOG CLASS - EYFS, Y1 & Y2

Welcome back to another year in Hedgehog Class, and to the new EYFS children on their first term at their brand new school!
I hope everyone has had a fabulous summer holiday with plenty of time to unwind with family and friends. I look forward to hearing about all the exciting things you have done over the summer holidays and can't wait to learn lots about our new little Hedgehogs!
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch via the school office. Alternatively, come and find me at the end of the day on the gate :)

What's happening in Autumn Term?

Autumn 1 - Our EYFS topic is *All About Me,* which will allow the children to learn more about themselves and each other. Year 1 and 2 will be learning how to write instructions, texts about friendship and autumn poems. In science we will start looking at seasonal changes, which will be ongoing throughout the year. In geography we will be exploring our village and discussing what the weather is like where we live. RE will focus on Christian beliefs and in music we will prepare for our Harvest service. In DT, we will be designing and making textile puppets, and our computing topics are online safety and effective searching.

Autumn 2 - EYFS will be focusing on *Terrific Tales* including fairytales and traditional stories, which ties in with our whole class Nativity at the end of term. Our history topic in Year 1 and 2 will explore how toys have changed through time and this will also inspire our non-fiction writing in English. Our art lessons will focus on formal elements of art and in science we will learn about the qualities of everyday materials.

What's happening in Spring Term?

Spring 1 - Our EYFS topic will be *Ticket to Ride* as the children learn all about different types of transport. This links with Year 1 and 2 science as we explore uses of everyday materials, which is enhanced by our DT unit of wheels and axles. In English we will identify the key features of traditional tales and write our own tales with a twist! RE lessons will focus on key aspects of Islam. We will be developing team-building and gymnastic skills in PE, and completing a spreadsheets crash course in computing.

Spring 2 - EYFS's topic will be *Back to Nature* in line with the Year 1 and 2 science topic of plants. In history we will explore how significant local people have impacted our lives today, which will include an exciting visit to Woolsthorpe Manor—home of Isaac Newton! Then Year 1 and 2 will write recounts of the trip. In DT, we will be making fruit and vegetable smoothies, and in PE we will be developing dance skills.

What's happening in Summer Term?

Summer 1 - Our EYFS topic will be *Amazing Animals* which links with our Year 1 and 2 science topic of animals (including humans). In geography we will use maps to find out about the world and in English, Year 1 and 2 will write adventure stories. In RE, we will explore places of worship, and in art the children will create sculptures of living things. Our computing unit will build on coding from last year.

Summer 2 - The final topic for EYFS will be *All At Sea,* during which they will explore the depths of the ocean, both real and fictional. This coincides with Year 1 and 2 history when we learn about seaside holidays from the past. A fun trip to the seaside will also inspire us to write information leaflets in English. In science we will continue learning about what makes us human. In art the children will create seaside collages and in PE we will prepare for sports day!

PE

Hedgehog PE days are **Wednesday** and **Friday.** Children are required to bring their PE kits to school at the beginning of term to leave on their pegs and can be collected again at the end of term. Our PE uniform consists of black shorts, white T-shirt, socks and trainers/plimsoles. Please also provide a tracksuit top and jogging bottoms for the colder months. Adults will be available to assist with changing for PE, but please support your child by practising with their independent dressing at home.

Reading

Little Wandle: Your child will bring home a reading book which will be closely matched to their phonics level and changed every Friday. They will have already read this book during three adult-led group reading sessions. Keeping their book for the whole week will ensure children become confident not only reading the words, but also with their fluency, tone of voice and comprehension of the story.

Accelerated Reader: Pupils will choose a book from their reading level which has been determined by a comprehension quiz. After reading the book (and when they feel confident to do so) a mini quiz will be taken to assess their understanding of the book. This will determine if it can be changed or suggested to read again. These interactive quizzes should be taken at school but progress can be monitored through their online portal at any time.

Reading books should be brought to school every day. Please remember to read with your child for 10-15 minutes each night and log this in their journal. This will make a huge difference to their progress and enjoyment of reading. We also encourage the reading of any materials which interest your child such as magazines, leaflets, posters, non-fiction books and annuals.

Homework

A bingo grid will be sent home every full term with fun activities and challenges to support your child's learning. This is also available on the 'homework' tab on our class webpage. Children can choose the order in which to complete the activities, but please ensure they complete one piece of homework every fortnight so we can celebrate and look at everyone's work together. For any activities that cannot be physically handed in, please email photographs to the school office with the subject: [Name] Hedgehog Homework.

Rewards

In Hedgehogs, children can receive Values Points from adults around school for showing any of our school values. These will be collected on a tally chart and certain milestones will be celebrated in Shine assemblies each week.

We also have a Star of the Day who is chosen based on positive behaviour, achievement or showing school values from the previous day. They will be celebrated by wearing a special badge and becoming the line leader for the day.

Every class will collect Class Credits throughout the year for working together, and once we reach 100 the children can choose their own prize! Previous years have included a trip to the park, a film afternoon and a pyjama picnic!

Spelling

Each week, key spellings and spelling patterns will be published on the class page of the school website. These spellings are taught in class and will be recapped and revised throughout the year. Please continue to practise these at home to support reading and writing skills.

EYFS and Y1 will also receive phonics homework sheets to practise reading and spelling words from the week.

Website: Hedgehog Class: EYFS, Year 1 & Year 2 | The Marston Thorold's Charity Church of England

Our website contains a wealth of information that you may find helpful.

On your child's class page, you can find:

- Homework grids
- Knowledge organisers
- Photo updates
- Spellings

On our main website, you can find information about our:

- Policies and reports
- Term dates
- Newsletters
- School information
- School meals
- SEND

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