

Year 2 Newsletter

Friday 15th February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have looked at a 'Tinga Tinga' story for our Africa topic called 'Why Elephant has a trunk'. After reading how Elephant gained his trunk by an unfortunate incident with a crocodile, we made up our own versions of how Elephant got his trunk. Once we had drawn our own versions of the story on story maps, we wrote our stories in detail in our English books.

For art, we created our own 'Tinga Tinga' pictures, taking inspiration from the pictures in the books we have been reading. We created pictures of African animals, using lots of patterns and bright colours with crayons and mosaic techniques.

We began maths this week by following sets of instructions involving quarter, half and three-quarter turns in clockwise and anti-clockwise directions, to help us find various items on a treasure map. Then we described and compared properties of 3D shapes, by sorting them into Venn diagrams.

In PE, we learnt a dance to 'I just can't wait to be king'. The children did a brilliant job following the movements and they also had a go at choreographing their own routines in small groups.

We will have a big focus on reading next term and I will be taking small groups of children every day for some guided group reading sessions. These will take place from 12:00-12:15pm, as this will enable me to have some quality, focused time in the classroom with the children. Although this is the start of their lunch time, I will make sure the children do not miss their dinner!

We had a great time at forest school today! Mrs Murray taught us some traditional African games using blindfolds. We also had a go at making African mud huts out of sticks, clay and mud. Some of us felt we needed a good rest and chilled out on the hammock!





SATs: Just to make you aware, we will be doing some preparations for our SATs tests next term. I will be introducing this to the children as ‘Secret Agent Training’, so they hopefully won’t feel too worried when it comes to the tests. I will explain the process in more detail during an information evening for parents, which you’re all welcome to attend. This will take place on **Thursday 7th March** from **7:00-7:30pm**.

Early morning groups: Those children who come in early for interventions with me will no longer need to, as at the start of next term we will be reviewing and discussing new interventions.

Cake sale for Wateraid: Just a little reminder that we will be holding our cake sale on **Thursday 28th February**, so any cake donations will be very welcome! Thank you so much.

Home learning: I’ll give the children a break from spellings over half term. They can still continue to read and practise their times tables. I have updated the TT Rockstars website so that the children can now try more challenging times tables. They will be tested as usual on their times tables on Friday 1st March.

I hope you all have a lovely half term!

Mrs Mockler