



Angora Class Newsletter Term 1&2

Our topic for Term 1

We are exploring 'Whatever happened to the dinosaurs?'. We will be looking at dinosaurs' similarities and differences, what features they have, when they lived, what they ate, and discuss the various extinction theories. We have already discovered a dinosaur fossil in our Outdoor Classroom, created our very own fossils made from salt dough and we will look at how fossils tell us more about the dinosaurs! We will be learning the art skill of manipulating clay to create different shapes and forms to make our own dinosaurs.



Our topic for Term 2

Next Term we will be thinking about 'What makes a Queen great?'. We will be learning about Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth I and some of the changes they made or things that they did to make things better for their citizens. This is a great opportunity for us to consider what makes a great leader, and to think about how our choices affect others! We will also learn about who our current Queen is.



We will also be learning to use our historical skills:

- Sequence events in chronological order to create a timeline
- Look for similarities and differences in artefacts/sources
- Sort artefacts and pictures "then" and "now"
- Ask and answer questions about the sources and objects that we are exploring

Class news:

We are so proud of how the children have settled in to school life again! They are becoming more independent and sensible by the day, and we are really starting to see them take control of their learning again. We also have some new members in Angora class, so we would like to say a big WELCOME to them too!

Ian from KiC theatre took us on a fantastic journey, all about coming back to school and settling in again which we loved!

Our reading book changing day is **FRIDAY**. Please return books and reading records each week so that we can see who has been reading, and quarantine the books before sending out new ones on Monday. We will only change books when we can see that they have been read at home. Please can you sign the reading record when you read with your child.

We look forward to a great year with you!

Miss Caddy & Miss Wisdom

In English we will be

exploring the story of the Gruffalo and using the story to inspire us with writing sentences using our sounds, finger spaces and full stops.

In phonics we are:

Reviewing the **Phase 3** graphemes:

ch, sh, th, ng, ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er.

Practising reading and saying the **Phase 4** cluster sounds, e.g cl, st, br, str, nk, nt,

After these we will start learning to read and write the **Phase 5** alternative graphemes for sounds we already know. (e.g. ai = ay, a_e, ee=ea, e_e, ey).

In Maths we will be

counting to 10 forwards and backwards.

Writing numbers to 10 in numbers and words.

Finding 1 more/1 less to 10. Practising our number bonds within 10 (e.g. $7=6+1$, $7=5+2$, $7=4+3$).

Comparing groups/numbers to say which has more/greater and less/fewer up to 10.

Begin to explain/describe how they have found the answer.

Solving addition and subtraction problems within 10, and using the + - = signs.

Towards Christmas we will also be exploring numbers up to 20.

In Science we will be

comparing and sorting dinosaurs by their features.

Identifying and naming parts of the dinosaurs' bodies.

Learning about carnivores (meat eaters), herbivores (plant eaters) and omnivores (meat and plant).

Investigating what a dinosaur/animal needs for the perfect habitat.

Looking for signs of Autumn and thinking about how the weather/temperature changes as we move from Summer—Autumn—Winter.
<https://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/literacy.html>

In PE we will be

Learning football skills with Elite coaching.

Practising throwing and aiming skills using beanbags and Boccia balls.

Using the Curling stones to practise moving an object at different speeds and aiming at a target.

Our P.E. days are **TUESDAYS** and **THURSDAYS**. Children can come in wearing their P.E. kits on these days.

Useful websites:

Maths:

www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting

www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/addition-and-subtraction

Phonics/English:

www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/index.html

www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/

www.phonicsplay.co.uk/

www.phonicsbloom.com/

How you can help your child:

- *make sure they have plenty of sleep*
- *make sure they have a good breakfast*
- *try to read with them every day*
- *help them to learn their spellings or encourage them to use spelling shed at home*
- *support them in completing any homework tasks*
- *encourage them to speak to an adult if they are having problems with anything*
- *make sure they are on time and in school every day*
- *you could also ask them what they have been learning in school*