



Emersons Green Primary School
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Red Class Newsletter – Term 3 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break. We would like to take this opportunity to start by saying a big Thank You on behalf of the whole Red Class team, for the thoughtful cards, gifts and kind words we received – it really does mean a lot!

We have another busy term ahead and are sure you will see the children make lots of progress with their learning!

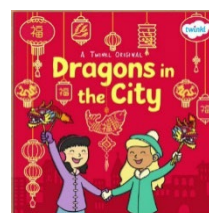
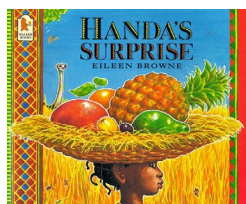
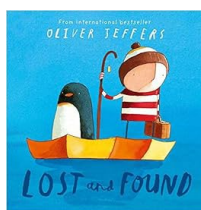
As before, Mr Wilson and Mrs White will teach the class every Thursday afternoon.

We would also like to welcome Mrs Faiza Ehtsham who has now joined the Red Class team and will be working with us every morning to help support children within the class.

This term's theme

Our key question this term is 'Where in the World?' As the title suggests, we will be focusing our learning on identifying different countries and environments – learning about the landscapes, weather, famous places, native animals, and how people live in some of these countries. **If you have any particular links to another country – for example, family members who live abroad – or your child has ever been abroad or to a different part of the UK, we would love to hear about this, so that we can look at these places on a map and find out a little bit about them.** Any photos would be fantastic too! Please drop us an email via admin@egps.org.uk or post a message on Google Classroom if you are able to share anything along these lines.

Here are some of key texts we will be using this term:



The attached topic web outlines the main learning we will be focusing on in each of the prime and specific areas of learning, through both adult-led activities and child-led play.

Phonics and Literacy

The children are making steady progress with their phonics, and are applying their knowledge to both reading and writing. **The attached phonics overview shows the GPCs and 'Harder to Read and Spell' words we will be learning each week.** Please support your child in practising and retaining these new sounds, using the phase 3 sound mat (attached) for quick recall and supporting them in looking out for these in their phonics books. Children often find it difficult to spot digraphs within words so please encourage them to look out for these when they are reading to you.

You will also find attached word mats of the 'Harder to Read and Spell' words from phase 2 and phase 3 – children need to recognise and read these words without sounding them out so any practice of this would be great too!

Thank you so much for your ongoing support with children's reading at home. **Regular reading is incredibly important,** so please continue to hear your child read their phonics book as often as you can, aiming for at least 4x per week. If possible, please pop a quick comment into your child's reading record – what's going well or what they have needed support with – each time you hear them read, or a summary at the end of the week if that is more manageable.

Alongside their phonics book, children will continue to visit the school library each Thursday to borrow a reading for pleasure book that they can share with family at home. In addition to this, we will continue termly visits to Emersons Green Library. **Our next visit is on Friday 26th January and we really need some volunteers to come with us: if you are available between 9:50am and 11:30am, please let us know.** Without enough adult helpers, the trip will not be able to go ahead.

Maths

Our maths learning follows the White Rose scheme of learning and focuses on developing depth in children's number sense. **The attached maths overview shows some details about what the key maths learning will be for each week.** There will be plenty of opportunities for children to be challenged and to develop their reasoning and problem-solving skills – things that will stand the children in good stead to develop as mathematicians and work with larger numbers later on. We also ensure children are using and applying their maths learning throughout the day and as part of their play.

It has been great to see an increase in the number of children accessing Numbotz and completing their 6 minutes across the week – thank you for your support with this. **Please continue to help your child to access their account and spend a couple of minutes, a few times per week, practising their number skills.**

General Reminders

- Please ensure that your child brings the following to school each day:
 - Phonics book and reading record
 - A named water bottle (please only provide water, not squash or fizzy drinks)

- Waterproof coat (it is really helpful if children can put their coat on by themselves and have a go at doing up zips and buttons)
- PE will continue to take place every Thursday – please wear PE kit to school
- Forest School will continue to take place every Friday - please bring in wellies and a hat/scarf/gloves etc for colder weather.
- Please remember to book your child's lunches and snack, up to 3 weeks in advance, using ParentPay – even if you are sending a packed lunch from home.

As before, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Bishop, Mrs Sandiford and the Red Class Team