

Class 1 Summer Term 2021



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a super Easter break. Firstly, I would like to say thank you for all of the support last term especially with the home learning. We are delighted to have the children back in school! This term we will be working under the title of 'Enchanted Woodland' for our topic.

Topic

The children are really excited about our new topic 'Enchanted Woodland'. Unfortunately, we will not be able to go on an educational visit, therefore I would like to ask for your support. We are so lucky to have many woodland and forest areas around Armitage. If you could take the children to explore the woodland during the topic, it would really help the children visualise and draw on their own experiences during their work. I would love to see photographs of these trips and I know the children will love showing these pictures to their friends. You could email me the pictures to my school address then the children will show them on the whiteboard.

During this topic they will be finding out about plants and animals that live in woodlands as well as imaginary creatures such as fairies and elves. We will be creating non-fiction books on the iPads using the information that they have found out and will also be making sculptures from natural materials in a similar style to Andrew Goldsworthy. Whilst doing this the children will learn how to take digital photos of their work. They will explore the life of Robin Hood and his Merry Men and will discuss whether he was a good or a bad character for the deeds he did. In D&T the children will be designing and making some miniature habitats and homes and looking at the gardening designs of Capability Brown. At the end of the topic the children use a set of instructions to plan and carry out their own woodland picnic. In French they will be learning new vocabulary about pets and will be using *The Gruffalo* to learn French words linked to this book. In RE they will be exploring places of worship and they will also be learning about how religious stories are used by religious communities.

English

The children will be reading a variety of poems about trees and nature this term, some of which they will learn to remember so that can recite them off by heart in front of the class and some of which they will use to help them to write their own poems. They will also be using speech and thought bubbles to express the thoughts and feelings of different characters in stories, such as *The Stick Man*. This will help them to understand how to use different features of a text use when creating a cartoon. They will also be reading *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Rumpelstiltskin* and *The Magic Faraway Tree* which will develop their understanding of what a story is and the type of language is used. They will then use this information to help them to write a story about what happens in the new world they have invented at the top of the 'Magic Faraway Tree'. Later in the term they will have the opportunity to create a fact file whilst finding out non-fiction facts about different kinds of woodland animals and the children will also use these facts to write riddles which will become part of a class book for the book corner. They will begin to join their handwriting,

use capital letters and full stops consistently in their work and begin to use suffixes such as er, est, ed, and ing, for example singing, hunted, greatest. They will also continue to practise using common exception words in their writing.

In Phonics, the children will continue to work through the phases of phonics. Can I remind you to keep practising the Phonic mats that I sent home just before Easter. We will continue working on these over the Summer Term so please practise a little and often over the week. Practising for 5 minutes 3 or 4 times a week is much better than for 20 minutes once a week.

It is also vital that the children are reading their home reading books at home. Again 5/10 minutes 3 times a week is much better than half an hour once a week. The children need to practise regularly in order to make progress in reading.

The children will be coming home with spellings each week. Please practise these words at home in a variety of ways. Examples of how to practise them was sent home at the beginning of the year - if you would like another copy of this, please email me and I can send you one home.

Maths

In Maths the children will be reading, recognising and using numbers up to 100 and they will be separating numbers into tens and ones. They will be calculating the answers to larger addition and subtraction questions and in doing so we will be recording how they worked them out. The children will share objects into equal groups and will be multiplying using diagrams and arrays. They will also be exploring fractions by finding half and a quarter of objects, shapes and amounts, such as how much liquid is in a container.

The children will also be practising their recall of basic skills. These skills include number bonds to 10 and 20, doubles and halves of facts to 20, counting forwards and backwards in 2s, 5s and 10s and odd and even numbers. There are lots of websites that you can practise these skills including:

[Hit the Button - Quick fire maths practise for 6-11 year olds \(topmarks.co.uk\)](https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Hit-the-Button),

[Coconut Odd or Even - Topmarks](https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Coconut-Odd-or-Even)

[Daily 10 - Mental Maths Challenge - Topmarks](https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Daily-10)

Let me know if you find any others!

Science

Throughout this term the children will be exploring the topics of 'Plants and Animals'. They will learn to identify and name a variety of common plants and trees and they will be able to sort trees into the two main categories deciduous and evergreen. Whilst doing this they will also be able to name the main parts of a plant. They will also be able to identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, describe where they get their food from and learn to draw a simple food chain.

PE

The children will continue to have PE once a week on a Monday. This term the children will be taking part in Athletics and they will also be developing their fitness skills. Please let me know if your child is unable to take part in PE by sending in a letter or sending me an email. Also, can you please make sure that they come into school in the appropriate PE kit. The children will also need to be able to take their own earrings out if they have them pierced or not wear earrings on a Monday. On occasion, the children will have an extra PE slot on a Wednesday and I will send an email or put up a notice to let you know when this is happening.

Reading and Homework

We will be reading with the children on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Please ensure that your child brings their book into school on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. You were informed what day your child needed to bring their book in. If you are unsure, please email me and I can let you know. Please ensure the children have their reading wallets with their book and diaries inside at school on the relevant day. Please use the reading diaries to record when your child reads at home and let us know how they are getting on.

Thank you so much for your support with the children's homework. They come in very proud of their work on a Monday/Tuesday morning. I shall continue to send this home on a Friday. We will be continuing to test the children on their spellings every week. The children are keen to talk about their experiences at home. Currently, we are not in a situation where the children can bring in certificates or trophies from home, however if the children have something to celebrate or tell us about e.g. achievements, then please send me pictures via email so that the children can still share these with the class. We will be sharing these on a Friday afternoon.

Thank you for all your support. If you have any questions, enquiries or concerns, please email me on staff15@croft.staffs.sch.uk or contact me via the school office on 01543 490261.

Mrs S Richards