



Robins, Kingfishers and Little Owls



Year 1/2 News

Welcome back!

Welcome back to another jam packed half term. The run up to Christmas is always very busy as we prepare for the year 1/2 nativity performances! This newsletter will keep you up to date with everything your child will be learning about this term and any important dates you need to remember!

This term's Topic: Why was Neil Armstrong Brave?



We have a really exciting topic lined up for this half term as we explore the amazing accomplishments of Neil Armstrong. This will also coincide well with our science topic as we focus on 'Space'. We will be learning all about Neil's journey to the first and only ever moon landing! Children will be learning all about the 'race to space' and 'Laika'- the first ever dog to orbit the earth. We encourage children to research these topics at home too.

If you find any interesting information, pictures, newspaper reports etc related to this topic then please bring them in to share with the rest of the class!

Homework

New homework booklets will be sent out this week! Please check your child's school bag! They will also be available on our class pages online: <https://etwall-primary.eschools.co.uk>



Autumn term 2 2017 Important Dates

November:

- 3rd- INSET day
- 3rd- PTFA fireworks
- 10th- KS1 Space Centre trip!
- 17th- Children in need
- 13-17th- Anti-bullying week
- 29th- PTFA winter disco

December:

- 6th- Nativity performance 2.30pm
- 7th- Nativity performance 2.30pm
- 14th- EYFS nativity performance
- 11th- PTFA secret Santa
- 15th- KS1 Space Showcase! 2.30- 3.15pm
- 19th- Last day of term!



English, Maths and Science

English- In English lessons this half term we will be doing 3 weeks worth of work on some 'Space Themed' texts to help get us warmed up for our topics! In addition to this we will also be spending 2 weeks reading and creating poems based on a theme! We also spend lots of time improving our SPAG skills (spelling, punctuation and Grammar)



Maths- Children will be learning lots of new skills, strategies and methods in maths this half term. These include, number & place value, measurement (time), multiplication and Division, fractions, and statistics. As you will agree, there is lots to cover! If you are unsure which methods we use to teach any of these topics then please do not hesitate to talk to your child's class teacher to ensure we are all using the same techniques!

Science- Working well aside our topic (Neil Armstrong) we will be posing the question: *What would Buzz Lightyear see if he was flying up into space?* Children will be learning about various aspects of Space including planet names, understanding how the sun gives us light during the day, but not at night and also why we can only see the stars at night time. We will also be visiting the National Space Centre! Very exciting!

Music, DT, R.E, P.E and PSHE

Music- This term's focus is 'Duration' children will be playing a mixture of instruments to compose pieces of music that differ in duration.

DT- Linking with our science topic we will be designing and creating our own Moon Buggies by using Mechanisms, wheels and axis

RE- Children will be exploring; **In what ways is a church important to believers?**

P.E- Children will be practising their balance, agility and coordination skills during P.E lessons. They will be exploring various

ways of travelling across various equipment.

PSHE- Children will be learning about staying fit and healthy and undergoing some astronaut training! We will also be thinking about medicines and how they help to keep us healthy!

Computing

This half-term we will be inputting text, pictures and sound clips into PowerPoint to create our own interactive presentations all about space! We will be doing lots of research first and planning out what will be going on each slide.



Parent Helpers/ Volunteers:

If you are a parent/carer who can spare even an hour each week, you are very welcome to come in and be an extra pair of hands. We are also very appreciative of any helpers that can support us on class trips during the year. Please let your child's class teacher know if you would like to help at any point during the term. This could be to help in the classroom, help with displays or hear readers. Let us know what you would prefer to do!

Resources for home!

Every child at Etwall Primary school has access details to a number of different educational sites. Your child will have login details for 'Bug Club' (reading), 'Purple Mash' (all topics), and 'Interactive Resources' (maths). These are resources that the school pays for, so please make the most of them!



Anti-bullying Week 13th—17th November

Etwall Primary School will be taking part in National Anti-Bullying week between 13th-17th November. Mrs Millward will be running drama based workshops for the whole school during this week. Children will be learning about various types of bullying and being made aware of what is and isn't classed as bullying. In addition to this all classes will be doing lots of anti-bullying themed work in their normal lesson time.



Mornings in class

Coming into school early between 8.45-8.55am is a great opportunity to start the day off positively! During this time you can read books or even complete some 'blue pen work' in your child's exercise books. For their own safety we ask that you remain with your child until the bell has gone to indicate the start of the school day.

**Please
remember
to bring in
reading
diaries**

P.E times

Please ensure your child has their P.E on their peg at all times. (Just in case there is a change to the normal timetable!) Each classes P.E slots are as follows

Robins: Friday a.m

Kingfishers: Wednesday p.m

Little Owls: Wednesday p.m

Swimming Times

Please note when your child is swimming:

Robins: Wednesday PM

Kingfishers: Monday PM

Little Owls: Monday AM

As always, we are extremely grateful to any parent/ carer that can help with swimming lessons. If you are interested in helping then please contact your child's class teacher.

KS1 Space Centre Trip!

The countdown is officially on for our KS1 trip to the National Space Centre and we are all very excited! Here are a few reminders in preparation for the day:



- Children are to wear normal school uniform.
- Please bring a packed lunch in a named bag, including water bottle (*Lunch bags will be stored in a large container during our visit and so children will need to be able to identify which lunch bag is theirs!*)
- **Children will need to be in school at 8.30am** in order to register and get on the buses to leave promptly at 9am. (Please enter classrooms by the usual external doors)
- Children are not required to bring any spending money (we will not be visiting the gift shop)
- We aim to be back before the end of the school day and will be dismissing children from external classroom doors as normal.
- Any travel medication will need to be given to your child's class teacher prior to the school trip day to ensure the relevant forms are filled in correctly.

If you have any questions regarding our school trip please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

We would also like to thank all of the parent/ grandparent volunteers we had offer their help for our school trip! We had an overwhelming response and unfortunately don't have enough spaces to take you all! All parents/ carers who have offered their support should have been contacted to confirm the arrangements. Thank you!

Nativity Costumes

We will soon be getting underway with our KS1 nativity preparations. Your child will be informed about their part and costume details soon! We are very lucky that we have a good stock of nativity costumes already in school. However, we are always on the look out for any donations! If you have a nativity style costume at home that doesn't fit your child and you no longer have use for it, then we will be happy to take it off your hands and put it to good use!

Reading Rewards

To support your child with their reading we ask that you read with them at least 5x a week (and record it in your reading diary!) There are rewards up for grabs! Each class will have its own rewards system for example, in Kingfisher class those who have read 5x during the week have their name put in a raffle and could win themselves an instant prize!!