



YEAR 2 Giraffes



NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024

SUMMER 1

Welcome to the Summer Term of this school year. We hope you had a great spring break and enjoyed spending time in the sunshine (and rain) with your family and friends. It was lovely to see all the children coming back to school enthusiastically and ready for a new topic, which we are all very excited about. You never know parents - you may need to get searching for some creepy crawlies, so be prepared for some fun outdoor homework tasks coming your way soon...

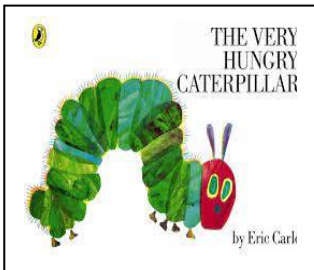
Wriggle and Crawl

Our topic for this term is 'Wriggle and Crawl' and we have already kick started by finding a variety of insects and many worms for our classroom wormery! Throughout the project we will be gaining lots of knowledge and understanding about minibeasts, their habitats and what they need to survive, so we can answer a range of questions.

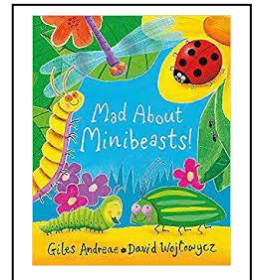
Do insects have a favourite colour? What is the life cycle of the ladybird?

Do snails have noses? Where do snails live?

We cannot wait to explore 'deeper' into this creepy and very wriggly topic!



In **English** we will be reading stories and information books about minibeasts, we write for different genres, such as minibeast stories and poems, lists and leaflets, instructions, reviews, and information texts. The first book we are going to focus on is 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' written by Eric Carle, followed by 'Mad about Minibeasts!' by Giles Andreae.



In **Maths**, we will continue to consolidate our knowledge about fractions, and we will be learning how to tell the time and concept of 'volume' when measuring.

In **Science**, we will consolidate our learning about living things and we will be working scientifically to investigate and learn about animals, including humans. We will also be catching up on some science about 'Plants' as we did not complete this area of learning last half term with it being a shorter one.

In **History** we will focus on how life has changed over the decades, starting with the 1950s. We will be looking at how things such as clothes, toys, homes, schools and technology has changed. If you have anything at home from any of the decades (1950s-1990s) then, please do send them in and we will look at them in our History lessons.

In **Design and Technology** we will draw delicate sketches of minibeasts, make models from a variety of materials and use magnifying glasses/microscopes to observe minibeasts up close.

Our **computing** will kick start with a lesson of online safety about being kind and cyber-bullying and the focus after that is going to be Programming our BeeBots to perform different algorithms (sets of instructions).

In **Music** we will be continuing to learn about different musical genres and patterns within in different pieces of music.

In **PE** Giraffes will be enjoying striking games and some outdoor athletics. Please be sure to send them to school with the **correct** PE kit on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays (Yoga). Earrings **must** be removed or covered with micropore tape before coming to school.

SATs

As you know, Year 2 children sit the Key stage 1 SATs during the month of May. It is also the first year that the results do not have to be reported to parents, although we still tell you how they get on. As a school (like the majority of primary schools) we have taken the decision to continue to use these end of Key Stage 1 assessment materials to inform our overall judgements and to prepare the children for the next stage of their education. The children have completed lots of practice papers, so they have become familiar with the format of the Maths and Reading papers so I am confident they will do very well. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me or any of the Senior Leadership Team.

How can you help your child?

- **Listen to them read each day.**
- Ask them questions about what they have read.
- Encourage them to practice their spellings every day.
- Support them in completing their homework.
- If your child is unsure about how to complete a piece of homework, then encourage them to speak to an adult at school before it's due in.
- Go to your local library to find books about their current topic.
- Provide a named PE kit for them to wear on our PE days.
- Provide a named water bottle for them to use in class.

Weekly routines

- PE is on **Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.**
- Spellings will be sent home on **Fridays** and the children will be tested on the following **Friday.**
- Homework is set on a **Thursday** and is due in by the following **Tuesday.**

Key Dates

Monday 22nd April: WOW starter - children will need wellies in a plastic bag.

Monday 6th May: May Bank Holiday

W/C: 20th May: Specialist week

Friday 24th May: End of Summer 1

Monday 3rd June: Inset Day

Tuesday 4th June: Pupils return to school.

Thank you for your continued support.

We are looking forward to teaching our gorgeous Giraffes this term.

Kind Regards, Mrs Obhi and Mrs Kidd