

Welcome to Thomas Hardy Class

September 2020

Hello!

The children (and adults too!) have all settled in well to our new class and have already done lots of exciting learning about Planet Earth using the book 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers. We are sending a newsletter out to give you some information about our class and also to let you know about our learning this term.

Children may come into school from 8:30am. They have done really well sorting themselves out and getting on with the activities at their tables while they wait for the others to arrive. They have enjoyed drawing, colouring and playing with their own playdough. Soon we will have some nice new Lego to play with too! We do the register at 8:45am and then begin the days learning activities.



Reading

Reading at home with your child is really important! We encourage you to read with your child as often as possible - 5 minutes daily is far more effective than 20 minutes once a week. We will send the children home with one or two books on a Monday and a Thursday if they have finished the books they have been given. Books can be returned to school on the same days - Monday and Thursday, this way they can be kept for 72 hours before they are put away or used again.

Understanding what they are reading (comprehension) is also very important.

It is very helpful if you can discuss what your child has read:

- * What are their thoughts about the book? Do they like it?
- * What do they think the character might do next?
- * What do certain words mean?
- * Why do they think certain things happened?

One of the best ways to encourage enjoyment of reading is to read a book together!



In school children are heard to read as part of a guided group by Mrs. Killick or Mrs. Emerson. Year 2 children also get the opportunity to read independently and explore the books themselves as well as completing reading comprehension activities. The children's reading will be supported and assessed constantly during these reading lessons. Year 2 children will also take a Star Reading Test on the computer to find out their level and to enable them to use the schools Accelerated Reader (AR) Program. With AR, children can take quizzes on books they have read - these are great fun and also help the children with their comprehension.

Phonics
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wh y au

Phonics learning will continue from their learning in Reception or Year 1 using the Read Write Inc. scheme which we successfully introduced last year. The children will be grouped for Phonics according to the Set which they are working within.

In Year 2, phonics will not only concentrate on learning sounds but also specific spellings, tricky words (which can't be sounded out) and spelling rules (for example swap the 'y' for an 'i' before adding 'ed' in words like cry). The children enjoy learning these through the Oxford Owl Spelling Zone. They will bring home a list of words and activities to reinforce that weeks' spelling pattern for a 'Speed Spell' on Monday morning. These activities give the children the opportunity to read, use and spell the new words, enabling them to progress in their reading and writing. The children will have 12 words to practice. During the 'Speed Spell' 6 of these words will be chosen and read out for your child to write down.



In Thomas Hardy Class all of the children will be counting in steps of 1, 2, 5 and 10. Eventually these will be known as multiplication and division or Times tables.

In Year 2 they will continue to do this in a practical way but there will also be a greater emphasis on learning their tables. The children will be given access to TT RockStars which can be used on a computer or tablet, to help them practice their tables.

PE for Thomas Hardy Class is on a Wednesday and Friday - on these days you can come to school in dark shorts, jogging bottoms or leggings and trainers.

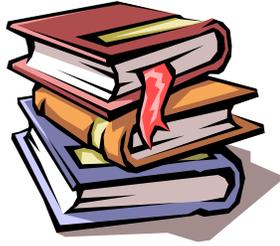
Our class email is thomashardy@broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk. If you have any questions you can contact us on here - We will try our best to check these emails each day. You can also contact us via the school office. Please continue to contact the office if your child is absent from school, Thank you! ☺

We are really looking forward to a fantastic year in Thomas Hardy Class. Please don't hesitate to ask, or email with any questions - we want this to be the best learning experiences for all of the children and their families!

Below you will find our learning for this term...

English Texts -

Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth by Oliver Jeffers



How to Find Gold by Viviane Schwarz

The Rainbow Bear by Michael Morpurgo

Ice Bear by Nicola Davies

Polar Bears (Animals in Danger)

The Emperor's Egg by Martin Jenkins and Jane Chapman

Animal Poem - Nursery rhymes, On The Ning Nang Nong by Spike Milligan and Please Do Not Feed The Animals by Robert Hull

Maths -

Number & place value

Addition & subtraction inc. Money

Multiplication



PSHE - Me and My Relationships
Being my Best

RE - Community and belonging, Prayer at home (Islam)

Our Topic this term

How did explorers find out about our world?

Ahoy Shipmates! ≈ Polar Explorers

UK weather patterns

Compass directions, positions & routes on a map

Geographical features

The worlds continents & oceans

Planning, making & evaluating boats

Hot & cold countries

North & South poles

The Equator

Ernest Shackleton - Exploring a significant individual beyond living memory

We will Remember them



Listening to music, exploring our voices
and creating our own music

Developing art & design techniques and looking
at the work of artists & designers