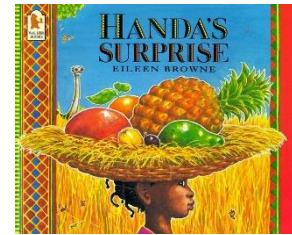


February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed the half term break. We are excited to be starting this term with our Global Week, which is focussing on Climate Change. We will be exploring climate change and how this affects the animals that we have learnt about in our previous topic and the ones we will learn about in our next topic. We will also explore how eating locally grown food can help. We have already learnt about Shrove Tuesday and made pancakes!

Our topic this term is 'Amazing Africa' which is based on the book 'Handa's Surprise' by Eileen Browne. We will start by finding out about Kenya which is where Handa lives. Next, we will focus on the animals that live in Kenya and Africa, so we can spot them when we go to Woburn Safari Park. We will then explore what life is like in a Kenyan village and compare this to Denton, before learning about Nairobi. There will be opportunities to taste different fruit and listen and dance to African music. We will also be creating African animals and houses and exploring African patterns.



Phonics will continue daily for both Reception and Nursery. Reception will continue to learn alternative sounds and new tricky words. They will practise letter formation, including capital letters. There will be lots of opportunities for them to practise reading and writing words, captions and sentences. Please continue to read daily at home and practise reading and writing tricky words. It really does make a difference!

Nursery will be focussing on their speaking and listening skills. They will have lots of opportunities to encounter new vocabulary and develop their use of sentences. We will also be focussing on strengthening friendships by encouraging them to listen and respond to each other. They will also continue to practise reading and writing their name, and identifying different environmental sounds.

In maths, Reception will continue learning to recall addition and subtraction facts for number bonds to 10. If you are practising these at home, please encourage your children to use their fingers to help them. They will then explore doubling, halving and sharing. They will then learn about odd and even numbers. Throughout the term, we will practise counting beyond 10. Nursery will continue to practise careful counting and will start to match amounts to numerals. They will use the vocabulary of 'more than' and 'less than' to compare numbers. We will start to encourage number formation and the use of number when they are playing. Linked to our topic, all children will explore patterns and 2D and 3D shapes. They will learn to describe a familiar route, order their day and use time and prepositional language.

A decorative border of small globe icons, each showing a different continent, surrounds the text. The globes are arranged in a rectangular frame with an extra row at the top and bottom.

## General Organisation

- Muddles will continue to go home for the weekend every Friday. Please email me any photos you would like me to print out.
- Hopefully, the weather will start to warm up but please ensure that children have a named jumper and coat in school at all times.
- All children need spare clothes in school.
- The children can always help themselves to school fruit, but if they are bringing a snack, please ensure it is healthy and nut free. They also need a named water bottle.
- P.E. will continue to be on Thursday. Reception need a P.E. kit in school at all times and Nursery can bring a P.E. kit if would like to. The children may be inside or outside for P.E. so please ensure they have warm clothes as well.
- Show and Tell will continue this term. Nursery can bring in one item for Show and Tell every week. In Reception, Red and Yellow children can bring in one item on a Monday or Tuesday and Green and Blue children can bring in an item on Thursday or Friday. We would like these items to be linked to the topic.
- Reception homework will continue to be given on a Friday and is due in the following Thursday.
- Reading books will be changed on a Monday and Thursday. Please sign and date in the reading record.
- Tricky words will be sent home for Reception to practise reading and writing.
- Please continue to upload pictures to Tapestry as the children love sharing their learning at home with their friends.

## Book and Biscuit

Thank you for supporting our 'Book and Biscuit' events last term. The dates for this term are as follows:

- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 3pm

If you have any questions or worries, please feel free to speak to one of us in the morning or after school, email me or ring the school.

Many Thanks,

Annabel Isherwood.