



Conkers Class

Autumn 2 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome are ready to embark upon our next half term in Conkers. We hope you've had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday. Our new topic will be 'We are Yorkshire' which will be launched with a Yorkshire Tea Party
Many thanks for your continued support. Please don't hesitate to speak with us should you have any concerns, information to share or questions – no question is too small and our door is always open to you; we are here to help.

Our Very Best Wishes, Mrs Bedford and Mrs Milson.

PE

Conkers children will continue to have PE on a Monday afternoon with 'Hawkes'. The children will also have a session of PE on a Friday. Your child can come to school on PE days wearing their PE kits - this is working well and is saving a lot of time with the children not needing to change. A complete PE kit includes: black or blue trousers/shorts, plain white or blue t-shirt, plain blue/black jumper and suitable outdoor trainers.



Staff teaching timetable

Monday: Mrs Milson

Thursday: Mrs Bedford

Tuesday: Mrs Milson

Friday: Mrs Bedford and

Wednesday: Mrs Milson (am)

Mrs Stockill

Mrs Mitchelmore (am)

Mrs Mitchell (pm)

Mrs Bedford (pm)

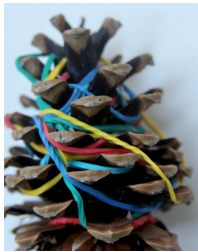


Resource Requests

We would continue to welcome any recycled items you may have at home for our creative/junk box modelling areas such as: old bottle corks and caps, milk bottle or small plastic lids, wooden lolly pop sticks, buttons, a range of small boxes (such as mini cereal box or smarties sized boxes), cardboard tubes e.g. kitchen roll/wrapping paper tubes.

We would also greatly welcome any natural objects such as conkers, acorns and pine cones to be used in our areas of provision such as in our Funky Fingers Area, to support the children with developing their fine motor skills.

The children are always creating new models, so any of these items would be greatly appreciated. Thank you very much in advance!



Water bottles and snacks

We will be continuing to spend a lot of time outside in the school day, so please remember the following:

- ✓ Please make sure your child brings a water bottle to school each day, so they can help themselves to a drink throughout the day. Remember they should be drinking water at school, not juice.
- ✓ Your child will also need a coat with them every day too, preferably with a hood, for those colder and rainy days.
- ✓ Free fruit and vegetable snacks are provided at break times every day, and we encourage all children to try some. Children are also welcome to bring in their own fruit or vegetable snacks from home to eat at break, if you prefer.

Spellings & Handwriting Homework

The children will continue to be given spellings to learn based on the phonics sounds they are learning each week. Year 1s and 2s will also continue to complete a spelling test, with the 10 spellings they've been given to learn each Monday, so please encourage them to practise at home. This half term, the children will also bring home 4 handwriting sheets per week (in addition to their spelling/phonics activities), since we are having a real focus on improving our letter formation.

For homework, to show that the children have been practising their spellings- which will help improve their progress in reading, writing and speaking- please help them to do the following:

- The reception children to practise recognising the phonemes and graphemes they are learning each week (information will be in zip up wallet in their book bag).
- The year 1s to practise their 10 spellings.
- The year 2s to practise their 10 spellings.

Your support really does make a positive difference to your child's learning journey so thank you.

Rewards!

This half term, we will continue awarding Dojo points for the effort children make towards their work and behaviour in the classroom. The children are showing much enthusiasm for being given Dojos, so there's sure to be many more awarded this half term! On a Friday, Mrs Bedford will give a prize and a certificate to the top two children with the most Dojo points each week. Children are also awarded Star of the Day certificates for 'stand out' moments in their attitude to learning, wow work, and for displaying positive behaviour and for demonstrating our school values.

The children are also enjoying being part of our weekly, whole school Together Time Assembly each Friday afternoon. This is a time for great celebration in which we commend children who have stood out for their efforts and achievements as: **Raring Readers; Wow Writers; Magical Mathematicians** and for standing out for showcasing one of our school values.



What are we learning about?

In English, we will be writing diary entries inspired by 'The Greatest Kid in Yorkshire' story. We will also be engaging in onomatopoeia poetry linked to our experiences and sensory responses to Bonfire Night. In the lead up to Christmas, the children will learn about the features of letter writing through writing letters their very own letters to Santa Claus!

In maths, we will continue to develop our addition and subtraction knowledge and skills, as well as learning about shape.

In Science, we will continue to develop our knowledge about the weather and changing seasons throughout the year, with a particular focus upon Winter this half term. We will also continue to engage in our seasonal enquiry over time study.

In Geography, we will develop our locational knowledge, naming and locating the world's continents and oceans. We will also locate characteristics of the UK, including focusing upon the characteristics of Yorkshire.

In computing, we will become 'lego builders' who need to follow and input given instructions, discover about technology outside of school and will develop our skills in grouping and sorting.

In PE, Mr Hawkes will be teaching ball skills and Mrs Bedford Kwik Cricket.

In Art and Design, we will be developing our drawing skills and techniques, including creating a landscape drawing inspired by Yorkshire artist David Hockney.

In Music, we will be using our voices creatively and expressively to practise the songs for our upcoming Christmas Nativity Production 'Bethlehem Bake-Off'.

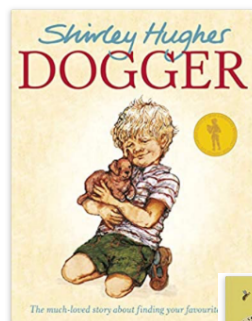
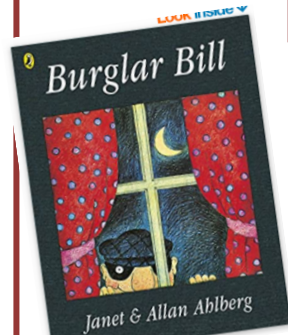
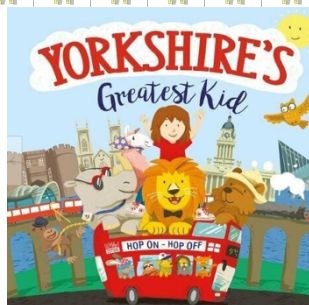
In French, we will be practising French greetings, saying French numbers and learning about Père Noël!

In RE, we will be thinking about the following Big questions:

Which people are special and why?

Who is Muslim and what do they believe?

Who is Jewish and what do they believe?



Reception WOW Moments & Individual Interests!

We wish to continue to celebrate your child's WOW moments captured at school and at home. To help us do this, we ask you to fill in a WOW note at home to share with us when your child has achieved a new milestone, tried something new or said something that makes you exclaim 'WOW!' (For example, reading with greater confidence, showing a willingness to write, riding a bike for the first time or swimming a length). These notes can be completed at home and brought into school. These will be added to your reception child's learning journal.

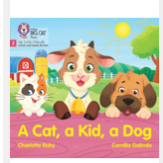
Please also continue to share with us your child's particular interests to enable us to tailor our planning and provision areas to their personalised interests.

Talk Through Stories

As discussed in our previous newsletter, helping your child to see and hear a wide range of vocabulary is very important to help with their learning. Last half term the children thoroughly enjoyed engaging in our Talk Through Stories sessions and we can already see the valuable impact they are having in immersing the children in a language-rich environment through extending and deepening their vocabulary and their understanding of books. we will be continuing to read a different book every week and learning 8 new 'tier 2' words from each one. Here are the pictures of the front covers of this half term's texts - if you have these books at home, please enjoy sharing them with your child.



Collins ebooks



As you are aware, we have made the decision to use e-books for the purpose of accessing the reading scheme at home. The pupils access the text as a hard copy 3 times in the week in class and the purpose of sharing the book at home is to further support with developing fluency and understanding of the text.

Remember this book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level so if your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy - your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise - celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

We ask you please to use your child's Reading Record to make a record that you have listened to them read, accompanied by any comments that you wish to share with us.

Sharing book

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book that has been chosen for you to enjoy together.

Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun sharing books together!

Please keep these books in your child's reading bag so that we can access them at school and to enable us to reallocate them for use by other families in school.

Your support with this is greatly appreciated, thank you.

Knowledge Organisers & Homework

We delighted in the children sharing some super homework with us last half term - thank you for your wonderful efforts with this. As a school, we will continue to use Knowledge Organisers for the majority of subjects that we teach. The children's homework tasks will continue to be based upon using two of these Topic Knowledge Organisers - there is a version for KS1 (Years 1 and 2) and for EYFS (Reception).

We will be using the same Knowledge Organisers in class with the children, across all subjects, and referring to them on the working walls, since they are a useful tool in supporting the children to **know more and remember more**. Please encourage your child to use the information on these to help them complete some of the homework activities in their home-learning books - these will continue to be sent home in their homework packs.

Maths

As you are already aware, we use the White Rose Maths scheme to teach our maths lessons. Once a unit of work has been completed in class, we will be sending home a Maths homework booklet for Year 1 and Year 2 children to help them to consolidate their learning and strengthen their skills. These will be brought home in their book bags.

Children will be shortly bringing home a place value unit booklet, based upon their learning last half term. Please encourage your child to use their maths knowledge organiser for each unit to help them to complete this learning.

The answers will be provided at the back as well for you to refer to. Once they have completed their booklets, please send it back in so we can award them some Dojos for their efforts!

Percy the Bear

We have been extremely excited to welcome Percy the Bear into Conkers Class! The children will continue to take turns to bring him home weekly, since this presents a wonderful opportunity for the children to write about their adventures shared with Percy. Please do encourage your child to write something in the Journal. Thank you very much to those of you that have already spent time with Percy and have encouraged your child to write about their adventures in the Journal. The children will also be given the opportunity to talk to the rest of the class about their time spent with Percy, and to share any accompanying pictures/photos. You can either stick any photos into the journal or feel free to email these using the following email address: admin@leavening.n-yorks.sch.uk

