



Welcome to Conkers Class!

Summer 1 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you've had a lovely Easter break. Our topic this half term is 'Making a Difference' and we'll be having a big focus on looking at ways we can look after our environment. The children will participate in an exciting Launch of the topic, where they'll learn more about how they can personally look after the environment by recycling items and collecting and reusing water. We're looking forward to all the fun and engaging activities we have planned for the children, and are sure they'll enjoy them all too!

Thank you, Mrs Milson and Mrs Bedford

Exciting Enhancement Grab Bags!

We are constantly looking for ways to engage the children and trying to provide enhancements inside and outside Conkers that will inspire them and help them to move their learning on. We are looking out for the following items to create an exciting, easy to grab, bag of resources to interest them even more:

- Fire / police helmet
- Chef's hat/ apron
- Dressing up outfits/ accessories
- Wooden, plastic or silicone cooking utensils e.g. pizza cutter,
- Silicone bun cases
- Toy wind mills
- Unused blank and lined notepads

If you have any of these going spare at home, we would really appreciate them.



Spelling Homework

The year 1 and 2 children will continue to be given 2 handwriting sheets every week. We have really been focussing on improving the presentation of our handwriting and work overall so please encourage your child to complete this handwriting practise.

The reception children will be given two or three activity sheets to help them practise the phonemes and graphemes they have been learning that week.

Please remind your child to bring their yellow spelling books into school every Monday. Their new spelling activities will be sent home again that week.

More Junk Modelling Resources

As you know, the children are always being creative and making things with recycled materials, so we are continuously needing to replenish the resources. Please send in any recycled items you may have at home for our craft area such as: small boxes, egg cartons, kitchen roll tubes, wrapping paper tubes and buttons. Thank you very much in advance!

PE on Mondays and Fridays

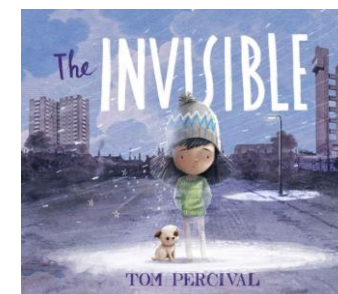
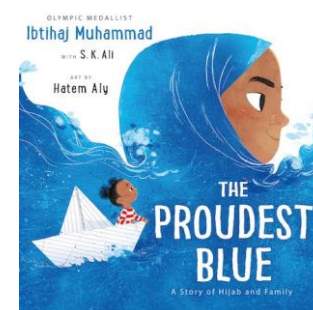
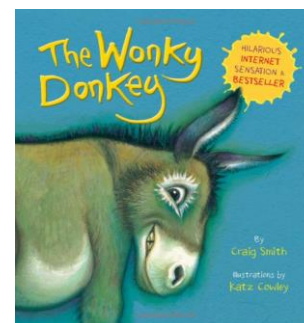
Conkers children will continue to have PE on a Monday afternoon but the Hawkes team will no longer be teaching. Your child can continue to come to school on a Monday and Friday wearing their PE kit, as this saves a lot of time having to get changed. Mrs Milson will be teaching Athletics on Monday afternoons and Mrs Bedford will be teaching Rounders on Friday afternoons.

Library Books

Every other Thursday afternoon, Pop up Library bring in a range of exciting books so that your child can choose one to take home to enjoy with you. Please remember to send them back into school a fortnight later, so they can swap it for a different book. **There are still a few books that need returning- please can you check at home.**

Talk Through Stories

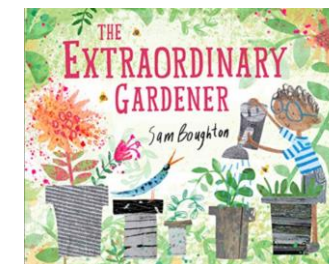
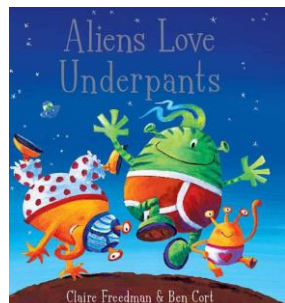
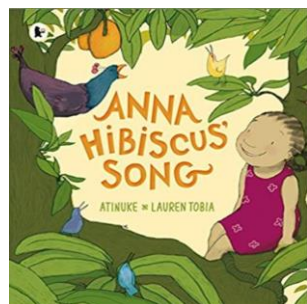
This half term, we will be continuing to focus on tier 2 words that children don't generally use in their day to day conversations. We will be reading a different book every week and playing little games focussing on various key words. These are the front covers of the books we're going to read this half term. If you have these at home, it would be great if you could send them in for us to discuss with your child.



More Natural Resources

We're collecting natural resources to add to our outdoor area including shells, pebbles, pine cones, tree branch sections and wooden building blocks. If you have any of these spare, we would really appreciate them.

Thank you!



What Are We Learning About?

In English, your child will be writing a diary about what exciting things they've done over the Easter holidays. Following this, your child will also create an explanation text about how they can look after the environment in various ways. They will also create a poem describing the beautiful nature and wildlife using similes and metaphors to add imagery.

In maths, Reception children will be looking at numbers up to 20 and beyond. They will learn how to add and subtract objects and find the total too. Year 1 and 2 children will learn how to find fractions of amounts of objects and parts of shapes. Year 1 children will learn about multiplication and division by grouping and sharing. Finally, they will spend a short time learning about changing the position and direction of various shapes. Year 2 children will be learning how to tell the time to the nearest minute.

In Science, your child will be exploring the parts of a plant and a tree. They will learn some names of some of the common garden and wild plants and also some names of common deciduous and evergreen trees. They will label the basic structure of a plant and a tree and find out the function of each part too. They will also predict which cress seeds will grow most successfully, then observe the growth and measure the height of the cress daily.

In History, your child will be discovering why Rosa Parks and Emily Davison are significant. They will be learning what are the similarities and differences between these two amazing people who lived in different time periods.

In computing, your child will use 2 Paint to draw an image of their plant to label and use 2Go to complete some coding challenges. They will use 2Calculate to complete some challenges using spreadsheets.

In PE, Mrs Milson will be teaching your child the skills of Athletics activities on Monday afternoons. Mrs Bedford will be teaching your child the skills of rounders on Friday afternoons.

In Art and Design, your child will be creating a collage inspired by Henri Matisse. He's known for his colour and shape, and we will try to create a collage based on his artwork using a variety of materials.

In Music, Mrs Stockill will be helping your child to develop their skills as performers learning several well-known melodies on glockenspiels.

In French, Mrs Stockill will be asking the children to explore sports, and asking the children to continue to say what they like and dislike and, how to say what we play and do. The children will also reinforce the days of the week.



What Are We Learning About?

In Understanding the World and Religious Education, your child will be learning about what being special means and what it means to belong to a faith community. They will be focussing on Christian and Jewish people and how they celebrate their religions as a community.

In Personal, Social, Citizenship and Health Education we will be focussing on 'Relationships'.

In Reception the pupils will be learning knowledge and skills linked to:

- Family life
- Friendships
- Breaking friendships
- Falling out
- Dealing with bullying
- Being a good friend

In Year 1 and 2 pupils will be learning knowledge and skills linked to:

- Different types of family
- Physical contact boundaries
- Friendship and conflict
- Secrets
- Trust and appreciation
- Expressing appreciation for special relationships

Throughout our 'Picture News' curriculum we will explore current affairs that demonstrate the key British Values of:

- respect for the rule of law
- individual liberty
- democracy
- mutual respect for and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.