



# Conkers Class

Summer 2 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you've had a lovely half term holiday. We are ready to embrace our final half term of the academic year in Conkers Class. We have a wide range of fun learning opportunities planned for the children centred around our new topic 'Battles and Events that have Shaped our World.' We are also looking forward to our upcoming visit to the Air Museum, which will offer the children a fun day of discovery and excitement by bringing to life the history of aviation within authentic wartime surroundings! We thank you for your continued support. Please don't hesitate to speak with us should you have any concerns, information to share or any questions. We are here to support. Our Very Best Wishes, Mrs Bedford and Mrs Milson.

## PE/Forest Schools

Conkers children will have Forest Schools on a Monday afternoon. The children will also have PE each Friday.

Please can your child continue to come to school on these days wearing their PE/Forest School kit.

A complete PE kit includes: black or blue trousers/shorts, plain white or blue t-shirt, plain blue/black jumper and suitable outdoor trainers. For forest schools sessions, the children will need to wear old/warm clothes, waterproofs and wellies.



## Staff teaching timetable

Monday: Mrs Milson

Tuesday: Mrs Milson

Wednesday: Mrs Milson (am)

Mrs Mitchelmore (am)

Mrs Mitchell (pm)

Mrs Bedford (pm)

Thursday: Mrs Bedford

Friday: Mrs Bedford and

Mrs Stockill



## Resource Requests

### **Junk Box Creations!**

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, wool, fabrics, buttons, a range of small boxes (such as mini cereal box or smarties sized boxes), cardboard tubes e.g. kitchen roll/wrapping paper tubes.

The children are continuing to love creating new models, so any of these items is always greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much in advance!



### **Design Technology Resource Request**

As part of our DT learning, we will be designing and creating our very own glider/aeroplane! To make these, we would greatly welcome any recycled cardboard that you may have such as old cereal boxes/cardboard packaging.

### **Topic Learning**

Linked to our learning about 'Battles and Events that Have Shaped Our World,' we would greatly appreciate your child bringing into class any resources, such as books, family stories and any memorabilia, you may have that link to this topic. Our History learning will be centred around The Wright Brothers First Aeroplane Flight! We will of course be sure to return these resources to you.

## Spelling Homework

The children will continue to be given spellings to learn based on the phonics sounds they are learning each week. The spelling sheets will also offer your child the opportunity to practise their letter formation too.

Reception children will also continue to be given two or three activity sheets to help them practise the phonemes and graphemes they are learning each week.

Please remind your child to bring their spelling books into school each Monday so that these can be used in school.

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

**HOME  
LEARNING**

### Reception WOW Moments & Individual Interests!

We hope that you are enjoying the ongoing opportunities to share your child's learning journal and we thank you for very much for your comments. We wish to continue to celebrate your child's WOW moments captured at school and at home. To help us do this, we ask that you continue 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! These will continue to be added to your reception child's learning journal.

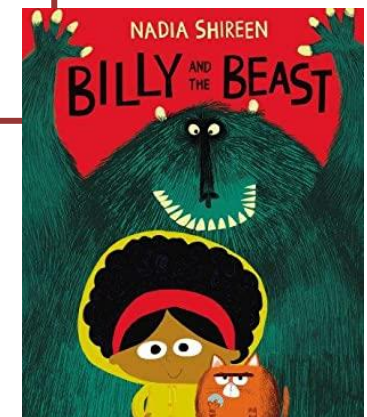
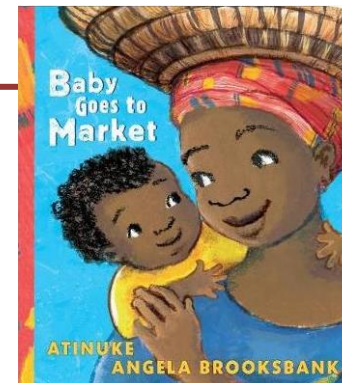
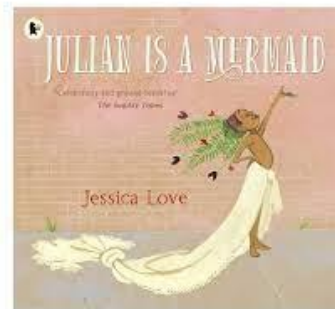
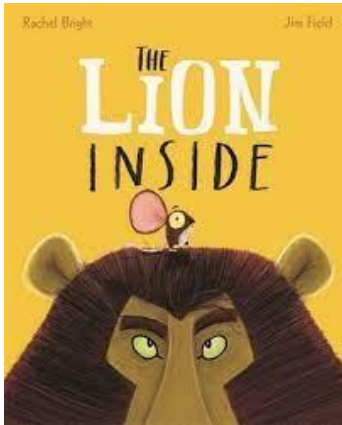
Please also continue to share with us your child's particular interests to enable us to tailor our planning and provision areas to their personalised interests.



### Talk Through Stories

We are continuing to embrace our routine Talk Through Stories sessions together.

During these sessions, we enjoy sharing a different book every week, learning 8 new 'tier 2' words from each story. Here are the pictures of the front covers of this half term's texts - if you have these books at home, please do enjoy sharing them with your child.



**Collins** ebooks



Please do continue to log into Collins e-books for the purpose of accessing our reading scheme at home.

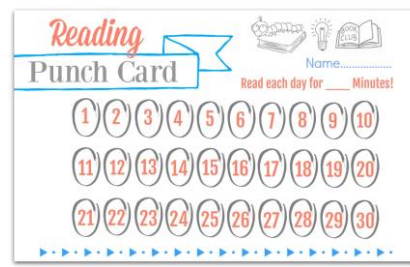
We ask you please continue to use your child's Reading Record to make a record that you have listened to them read, accompanied by any comments that you wish to share with us. Please ensure that both your child's reading book and reading record are kept in their books bags so that we can also use these in class.

### Reading for pleasure at home

We are delighted with our pupils' attitudes towards reading at Leavening and we have a positive culture of 'everyone a reader' which, of course, is the most important factor in enabling access to a broad curriculum. We are keen for all pupils to read widely and often at home and therefore have introduced the following incentive.

We will be continuing to celebrate reading through our reading reward cards. We encourage the children to read 5 times a week at home. Each time they read/share a book, they/you will sign their reading record and then this will correlate into a 'punch' onto their reading card (a bit like a loyalty card in Costa!) Every time a child achieves 20 'punches' to demonstrate they have read 20 times, then they will be able to choose from the reading reward list.

You child won't bring their reading reward card home, but they will bring their book and reading record and so please do encourage and support them in reading for pleasure at home. Any further questions please do get in touch with us.



### Mobile Library

It is a joy to witness the children's continued eagerness and enthusiasm for our mobile library van visits. They are thoroughly enjoying selecting a book of their choice! Please remember to return these books to enable your child to select a new book.



### Elvington Air Museum!

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023

As part of our whole school topic 'Battles and events that have shaped our world,' we will be visiting the Yorkshire Air Museum. This visit will give the children the wonderful opportunity to discover some amazing aircraft and the incredible people who designed, built and flew them.

This visit will also provide a golden opportunity to enrich and enhance the children's History topic learning, since they will be studying the following topic:

The First Aeroplane Flight, which will involve the children enquiring about the following key question: How can we possibly know about the Wright Brothers first flight when there's nobody alive now who saw it?

We are very much looking forward to this upcoming trip and we are sure it will offer the children a fun day of discovery and excitement by bringing to life the history of aviation within authentic wartime surroundings!



### Water bottles, Snacks and Sunny Days!

We will be continuing to spend 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 too, preferably with a hood, for those rainy days. However, now that we are welcoming having some sunnier days too, please be sure to send your child with a sun hat and a named bottle of sun cream (for their own personal use) too.
- ✓ Free fruit and vegetable snacks continue to be 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 time.





## What are we learning about?

In English, KS1 children will be learning about the features of a Newspaper Report, which will lead onto them writing their very own newspaper report about The Wright Brothers First Aeroplane Flight! They will study simile and metaphor poetry, including composing their own piece of poetry in this style. They will also study playscripts, dramatizing this and leading onto them producing their own version too. Reception children will be further developing their Literacy skills through writing a variety of recounts such as their weekend snapshots, how to make a banana sandwich and their observations encountered on a sound walk around the school grounds!


In maths, Reception children will be engaging in a variety of practical maths learning to find patterns, developing their ability to: double; share and group numbers/objects; recognise even and odd numbers and groupings; demonstrate spatial awareness and to visualise and build. They will also partake in fun learning around the theme of being on the Move! This will involve deepening their understanding of: patterns and relationships; spatial mapping and mapping skills. Year 1 children will be learning about the following areas: place value within 100; money and time. Year 2 children will be learning about: statistics and position and direction. Whilst completing these areas of learning the children will also be developing the invaluable skills of reasoning and problem solving. All children will continue to partake in routine Mastering of Number to support them in securing firm foundations in the development of good number sense and to support them with their fluency in calculation and their confidence and flexibility with number.

In Science, the children will be discovering about living things and their habitat. They will enquire through using research and observational skills, and they will also be encouraged to work scientifically through asking simple questions.

In History, your child will be Conkers Class will be learning about the first aeroplane flight, which will involve the children enquiring about the following key question: How can we possibly know about the Wright Brothers first flight when there's nobody alive now who saw it?

In computing, KS1 children will be using a digital device to take a photograph. This will involve making choices when taking a photograph, describing what makes a good photograph and deciding how photographs can be improved, including using tools to change an image.

In PE, the children will develop their tennis skills through skills based activities and games such as balancing a ball on a racket with control, tapping the ball to a partner, moving the ball with the racket using the forehand/backhand position, developing game tactics and playing a modified game of tennis.



At Forest Schools, the children will be creating art work using natural materials, building animal homes and using flint and steel to make mini fires on which they will be roasting marshmallows!

In Design Technology/Expressive Arts and Design, your child will be designing and creating their own glider/aeroplane using a mixture of materials such as wheels and doweling.

In Music, your child will be developing their skills as performers preparing for the end of term production and, if time allows, continuing our work on glockenspiels.

In French, the children will be securing the months of the year and learning how to say when their birthday is.

In Religious Education, your KS1 child will be thinking about the big question: How should we care for others and the world, and why does it matter? Reception children will consider What is special about our world? Whilst considering these questions, they will focus upon Christians and Jewish People.

In Personal, Health, Social and Emotional Education, this half terms topic is called 'Changing Me' and all children will learn about key changes they will go through. A separate letter was sent out last half term detailing our Relationship and Sex Education curriculum. If you missed this, then please email the school office for a copy. As part of this learning, EYFS children are encouraged to think about how they have changed from being a baby and what may change for them in the future. They consolidate the names and functions of some of the main parts of the body and discuss how these have changed. They learn that our bodies change in lots of different ways as we get older. Children understand that change can bring about positive and negative feelings, and that sharing these can help. They also consider the role that memories can have in managing change. Year 1 and 2 children compare different life cycles in nature, including that of humans. They reflect on the changes that occur (not including puberty) between baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult and old age. Within this, children also discuss how independence, freedoms and responsibility can increase with age. As part of a school's safeguarding duty, pupils are re-taught the correct words for private parts of the body (those kept private by underwear: vagina, anus, penis, testicle, vulva). They are also reminded that nobody has the right to hurt these parts of the body, including a lesson on inappropriate touch and assertiveness. Children practise a range of strategies for managing feelings and emotions. They are also taught where they can get help if worried or frightened. Change is taught as a natural and normal part of growing up and the range of emotions that can occur with change are explored and discussed.