



Kirklevington Primary School
Elm News - April 2026

Welcome back for the Summer Term. Below is some information, which I hope you will find useful, regarding our curriculum coverage this term.

Our topics for the Spring Term are:
'Beast Creator' and 'Ground-breaking Greeks'

Within our 'Beast Creator' topic, we will explore a wide range of living things and their habitats. We will investigate the life cycles of different creatures, with a particular focus on butterflies and bees, observing and describing the stages of growth and development. Children will learn about animal adaptations, such as how polar bears are suited to survive in the Arctic and why giraffes have long necks, as well as plant adaptations including how cacti thrive in dry/arid environments. We will explore a variety of habitats and consider why some are under threat, leading to discussions about endangerment and the importance of protecting living things and their environments.

After half term, we will embark on our 'Ground-breaking Greeks' topic. We will explore key aspects of Ancient Greek civilisation, including the beliefs and stories that shaped their culture. Children will learn about Greek gods and goddesses, as well as mythical creatures such as the Minotaur and Medusa, understanding their significance in Greek mythology. We will investigate the origins of the Olympic Games and their importance in Ancient Greek society, before exploring significant historical events such as the Trojan War. Pupils will also develop their chronological understanding by ordering key events from the Ancient Greek period on a timeline, helping them to build a clear picture of how this influential civilisation developed over time.

English

Within this term's English sessions, we will build upon our writing skills by developing a clear understanding of speech punctuation, using this knowledge to write engaging dialogues. Linking our learning to our wider curriculum, we will explore how deforestation leads to the endangerment of species and take on the role of sloths to write persuasive and emotive letters. As the term progresses, children will use their creativity to invent their own unique creatures and produce detailed non-chronological reports, applying expanded noun phrases and prepositions to enhance their descriptions. Finally, we will bring these ideas together by writing imaginative narratives about our creatures, focusing on crafting engaging, well-structured stories that capture the reader's interest.

Maths

Our Maths lessons this term will focus on developing pupils' confidence and fluency across a range of key areas in line with the National Curriculum. Children will begin by learning to tell

and write the time accurately, including using analogue and digital clocks, and solving problems involving time. They will then apply their understanding of number in real-life contexts through work on money, including adding, subtracting and giving change. Pupils will also explore the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, identifying angles, lines and symmetry, before developing their understanding of position and direction through describing movement and coordinates. In statistics, children will interpret and present data using charts, tables and graphs.

Year 5 pupils will extend their learning further by calculating and comparing percentages, finding the volume of shapes, and converting between different units of measure, applying these skills in a variety of practical and problem-solving contexts.

Throughout the term, we will continue to develop confidence, speed and precision in the recall of times table facts, particularly as this the essential foundation for large quantities of mathematics lessons in upper KS2.

Y4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)

Within the two-week window of 1st - 12th June, children in Year 4 will complete the MTC. We have been working hard as a group to develop our recall speed and precision. To support with this at home, please ensure your child practises often at home using the 'Learn With Emile' app. They can do the actual MTC test of there as many times as they wish to. This is the best practice. There is no pass marks for this - however, I always say that they should aim to get all of them correct!

Science

During the first half term in science, pupils will study 'Living Things and their Habitats', where they will develop their understanding of how living things can be grouped and classified based on their characteristics. They will use classification keys to identify a range of organisms and explore how environments can change and impact living things. Pupils will also learn about life cycles, including reproduction and metamorphosis in a variety of plants, animals and microorganisms.

After half term, the focus will move to 'Animals, including Humans'. Pupils will learn about the organs and functions of the digestive system and explore the different types of teeth and their roles in breaking down food. They will also study how mammals, including humans, change as they grow, developing an understanding of the different stages of the life cycle.

PE

In the first half-term of summer, PE will be taught each Tuesday afternoon, with a focus on the new and exciting sport of Quidditch!

After half-term, PE will be taught on Thursday afternoon, where we will be practising our techniques of running, throwing and jumping during athletics.

Please ensure that your child wears a PE kit to school on this day.

Children must wear appropriate PE kit for school. Please see the link below (also found on our website) for more details: <https://kirklevington.org.uk/parents/uniform/>. Children should not wear sports logo clothing nor other colours of clothing.

No jewellery is to be worn for PE. Children wearing earrings will be asked to remove / cover these prior the beginning of the lesson. Children with long hair must tie hair in a bobble before to PE lessons. **All pupils should have a water bottle in school every day.**

Forest School

During the first half-term only, Elm class will continue participating in Forest School sessions each Tuesday. A quick reminder to please ensure your child brings alternative footwear to change into, such as wellies, trainers or boots, for each Forest School session. This helps us to keep the school environment clean after outdoor learning. Thank you for your support in helping sessions run smoothly.

Forest School attire:

- PE kit, including trainers
- Warm coat
- A second pair of footwear: wellies, boots or trainers
- Hat, gloves, scarves - as appropriate for temperature

Reading Records

All pupils in Elm must bring their reading book and reading record to school every day. Please ensure that reading records are signed by an adult weekly. Children are encouraged to read at home as much as possible (every night would be great!). This will enable them to build and consolidate important reading skills, such as reading speed and fluency, the ability to analyse texts and make inferences. We will aim to promote children's enjoyment of reading throughout the year and develop their fluency to ensure appropriate advancement through the reading colour stages.

Homework

Children will continue to receive weekly homework via Seesaw, with a focus on either reading comprehension or times tables. I can also offer this to children in paper form. Please get in touch if this is preferable - work completed would then need to be uploaded as photos onto Seesaw for feedback.

As well as regular reading, children should be practising their times tables often. Quick recall is essential to the new maths topics taught in Key Stage 2. 'Learn With Emile' and Times Table Rockstars are excellent apps, which can be used at home by using your child's login details found in their reading records (they are the same for both accounts).

Spelling

Spellings will be assigned on a Friday through Spelling Shed and tested the following Friday. Each week, your child will complete spelling lessons to become familiar with the rule. Spelling Shed login details are also in your child's reading record. This website can also be accessed at home to practise the spellings.

Whole-School Reminders:

Only permitted parents/carers are allowed to use the school staff car park, with prior agreement of Mrs Peacock. This rule applies to Breakfast Club drop-off too. With

the limited space, staff are finding it increasingly difficult to park their cars on a morning and, therefore, parents/carers using Breakfast Club should park responsibly on Forest Lane and walk their child/children to the Breakfast Club entrance safely on the footpath. Thank you to all those parents/carers who adhere to this school rule already.

Children should walk with their scooters or bikes around the school site (once inside the green gates and fencing) to ensure the safety of the whole school community. Thank you!

If you have any problems or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me. Here's to a successful and enjoyable term ahead!

Mr Drake & Mrs Wallace 😊