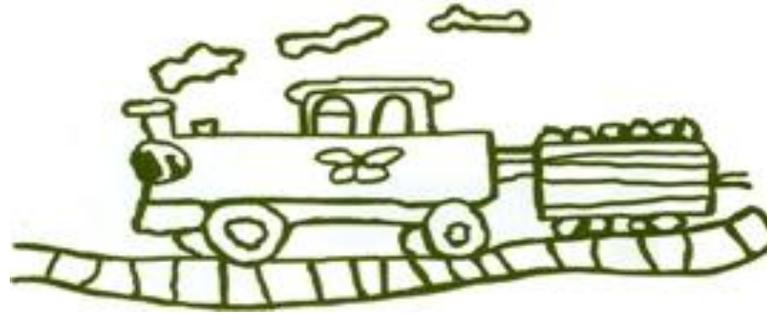


# Grange View C.E



# First School



Welcome to this half terms'  
Topic Information letter  
for Elm and Beech Class

Miss Darlow  
and Mrs Chapman



# Deadly

# Dinosaurs

Autumn Term (2)

## PE - Games

This half term the children will continue to enjoy little movers every Friday.

This includes dance and core PE Skills.

Year 1 will also be starting PE with Mrs Cessford on a Tuesday where they will be doing a combination of ball skills and movement.

PLEASE ENSURE THEY WEAR THEIR PE KITS TO TAKE PART.

## RE -



This half term the children will be exploring **Why is Jesus important to Christians?**

They will learn about the story of Christmas from the Gospel of Luke and think about why Jesus was so important. They will think about how Christmas is celebrated by Christians now and their own family traditions.

They will also be thinking about the message of charity and giving thanks.

## Interfaith week - Hinduism

This half term is jam packed with events and days that the children can get excited about.

Interfaith week is one that the children enjoy and this year the whole school will be studying

Hinduism; Light and Dark

They will be learning about this religion through a range of media including art, music, dance, story and drama.



## PSHE

The theme this term is 'Family and Friends'. During the term, they will discuss different family types, friendships and behaviour. They will also discuss about being responsive to others feelings and looking out for others as well as focusing on the class core value. Elm's value is trust where as Beech's is forgiveness.

## History/Geography

This half term the children are going to be learning about dinosaurs.



They will be thinking about where fossils are found and using key geography terms about physical locations. Elm class will be using the vocabulary to enhance their small world work and play.

They will learn about significant individuals and this will link in with their computing.

## Science -

The children are going to be exploring the world of dinosaurs. They will understand the difference between carnivores, herbivores and omnivores in both dinosaurs and animals we can find today. They will be sorting and classifying objects that are living, dead and never been alive.



Additionally, as part of our outdoor learning, the children will be identifying and naming different types of animals they will find in our school environment.

## Numeracy:

Our key focus this half term is mainly addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Both classes have started it last half term but will be carrying on this half term. They will be consolidating their knowledge using a range of different manipulatives and will continue to practice fluency and pace through Friday maths games and activities. The children will be able to practice more at home on mathletics.

## Literacy

### Reading

During this half term children will read in a variety of situations. There will be shared whole class sessions, Year two will have small group guided sessions, and all will have one to one with an adult weekly as well as encouraging a love of independent reading.

### Reading at home

*Last year we re banded all our books and we're excited to continue to develop a love of reading with the children. They will each have a reading record and bring books home on a daily basis - please read with your child as much as you can and sign their record - we have a new reward system in both classes to celebrate their success and hope to have them progressing through the bandings brilliantly, this will help with Y2 SATs and the Year 1 phonic screening.*

### Writing

The children will write in the following genres: Poetry and non-fiction report writing will be the main focus this half term around the topic of deadly dinosaurs. The children will be learning about rhyme, structure and key features of a text.

### Handwriting

We use a pen pals system in school, where they do daily letter join practise. There are many ways you can help build muscle strength for your child - please ask us for suggestions.

### Speaking & Listening

Children will encounter a variety of speaking and listening opportunities. Presenting information to their class during news, show and tell and through team building activities.

## ICT -

Throughout the term the children will be developing lots of different ICT skills. They will be using the ipads and chrome books to collect information and store data.



Later in the term they will be using technology to create information booklets or presentations about deadly dinosaurs. This will include a lot of practical everyday skills such as searching, click and dragging, inserting pictures and inserting text.

## Art/DT

The children are going to be exploring sculpture and form this half term. They will be looking closely at the textures and shapes found on a dinosaur face.



This will be linked with the lines and form of shells. The children will be using a range of tools and techniques to create a dinosaur sculpture. They will then have to carefully think about mixing paints to decorate their sculpture.

## Homework

**Reading** - Children will be bringing home their home reading books during the week. It would be helpful if you could either write or sign the book to say you have heard them read, it helps us to avoid repeat reading the same pages. *We would really like to give the importance and value of reading a big push this year to help create confident, fluent readers throughout school. In Year 1 reading confidence will help greatly with the phonic screening as will fluency and confidence for the Year 2 SATs reading assessments in the Summer.*

Additionally the children may bring home a second book that they have taken out of the library on our Friday visit.

**Spellings and Times Tables** - Children will be given differentiated spellings to learn for their weekly spelling test on a Friday morning. Please help your child as much as possible learn these words as they will help with their confidence and fluency as both a reader and writer.

With the new expectation of compulsory times table tests at Year 4 there are certain times tables we endeavour to have the children fluent in by the end of each year. **Year 1: 2x and 10x table. Year 2: 2x, 3x, 5x and 10x table.**

Please whenever the opportunity arises help your child continue to practise these number sequences and become more fluent and confident. J2blast on school 360 is fantastic fun for time stable practise!

**Maths / English Homework** - Children will be given some Maths Homework on Busy things on School 360, or through our new School jam online portal for maths homework. These will be available to complete from Friday afternoon to the following Friday morning at 8am. . The maths homework is usually linked to the work they have done that week in Numeracy and should be appropriate for them to complete independently.

**Thanks for your help and support.**

## Parental Help/Resources

We would very much appreciate your help/skills/resources that would link to any of our topics for this and the following half term throughout the year. If you feel that you could help us and your children out in any way please contact school and let us know.

## Home Time

If you need to change the usual arrangements for picking up your child from school, please let school know as soon as possible. As you will understand we cannot allow children to leave the school premises unless we have permission from parents or carers.

## Forest School / PE Kits (Tues, Wed and Friday)

Classes will be using the forest area whenever possible, we have waterproof trousers which we provide for each child but please ensure that their wellies are in school to avoid their school shoes being ruined. Similarly, a warm winter coat /hat / gloves should be in school so that are comfortable. It is intended for forest school to be Wednesday (Y1) and Friday (Y2)

We are intending to do PE on a Tuesday/Friday (Y1) or Monday / Thursday (Y2), so please ensure that they have their PE Kits as well as appropriate footwear in school at all times, especially if they have done an after school club the kit must return the next day.

Last year, across the whole school there was a high demand for the spare PE kit to be used and as a result we have very limited provisions now. Finally, if your child has had their ears pierced - ideally the earrings should be removed for PE if not we can provide tape.

In general, long hair needs to be tied up for PE but would be best tied up at all times in school.