



Gecko Newsletter



Autumn Term

Welcome

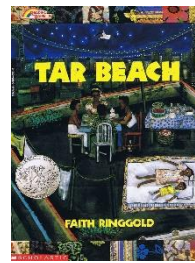
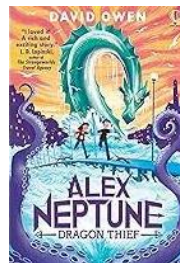
It has been lovely to welcome the children back into school and we are amazed at how quickly they have settled into a new class and routines. They have returned enthusiastically and ready for a busy and very important year. If you have any questions or messages for any of the adults working in class, then please feel free to email or leave a message with the office - We will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

Many thanks - Miss Gaught

Learning this term

Reading for pleasure book:

Alex Neptune, Dragon Thief, by David Owen



English book:

Tar Beach, by Faith Ringgold

English - We will begin this year by reading a book called Tar Beach, written by Faith Ringgold. The children will get to explore poetry, setting descriptions, formal letters and dialogue (as a script).

Maths - Our main focus this term will be concentrating on place value and the four operations: adding, subtraction, multiplication and division. Please encourage your children to access Times Table Rock stars at home as this will help to improve the speed and accuracy of their times table knowledge.

Science - Our Science the first half term will be forces and the second half term will be Earth and Space. Children will be looking at how we see, the relationship between light sources, shadows and colour.

Key vocab for forces: *gravity, upthrust, buoyancy, air resistance, water resistance, Isaac Newton, friction, opposing forces.*

Topic - Our topic this term is Sustainable Earth? We will be working on geography skills including mapping, consider the environmental challenges facing our World and consider how things might be improved for future generations.

Key Vocab: *environment, recycle, fossil fuels, human geography, physical geography, sustainable, reusable, pollution, emissions*

DT Our Design and technology project this term will be food technology and we shall be planning for and making fair trade cookies.

ART Children will be working on their drawing skills. They will learn the 7 elements of drawing as well as techniques to do with colour.

PE For our first term sessions will usually be outside so come dressed appropriately (no earrings or hoodies please). We will be working on skills for basketball and playing outdoor team games.

Computing Our first module this term will be about computer systems and our second half term will involve planning and making a video.

Home learning

Spelling/Reading Weekly spellings will be on sheets that will be kept in a folder in school and children will be given time to write these out each day. A list of the spellings for each week will be posted onto Google Classroom allowing children to work on spellings at home. As part of the homework, we still expect children should **read at home for at least 15 minutes every day**. Quizzes can be taken outside of school if your child finishes a book.

Home learning The children will be given an English comprehension or maths task each week and this will usually be due in on Tuesdays unless otherwise stated. Anyone not handing in the work on time will stay in for part of their lunchtime to complete the task.

Dates and Reminders

Diary dates:

- Year 4 Burwell House Trip - 23rd - 24th October

Reminders:

Healthy snack - Please send your child in with a piece of fruit or vegetable that they can have at break time - crisps, biscuits, cheese and popcorn are only for lunchtime. Please also send your child in with a bottle of water.

School uniform - No sportswear (joggers or leggings) except for PE days and no hoodies. Earrings should be plain 'stud' style and not hoops of any kind.

PE Days: Thursday and Friday. Thursday will be indoors during the winter months. If your child is unable to remove earring for any reason they will need to bring in tape to cover them during the lesson.