

Leopards, Meerkats & Tigers: Autumn 2 Newsletter

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential to ensure uninterrupted progress and to enable children to exceed their potential, we actively involve the children in achieving this by holding weekly assemblies with a reward for each class who has 100% attendance. Certificates are awarded termly and yearly for all children who achieve 100%, with these rewards in place the children wholeheartedly strive to be part of the winning class and the support of each other is a pleasure to see, so please support your child and ensure they are regular attenders.

Well done to the following children who had 100% attendance last half term:

Emma E, Abigail, Phoebe H, Imogen, Daniel, Riley, Callum, Jamie, Emilija, Courtney, Alfie, Cameron, Lydia, Aj, Macie, Noah, Mazie, Annie, Shaneace, Lewis, Alexander H, Alexandru, Madison M, John, Rusne, Emma R, Lucy R, Visaakan, Te-Te, Kajus, Taylor, Kai V, Jake B, Shandon, Kaidan, Katerina, Amelia H, Rhianna, Ashleigh, Phoebe M, Luca M, Thomas M, Ryan M, Jayden M, Chelsea, Markuss, Beth and Martha.

Good attendance is important because: your child needs to be in the academy to be able to learn and achieve; lessons are taught in a sequence and it can be difficult to catch up if a lesson is missed; for children to have relationships with others and to form lasting friendships; for a child's confidence to attempt new work and to work alongside others.

Pupil Reward Points

Being in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing!

The reward scheme allows children to earn points for showing 'Green Behaviour' which may consist of trying hard in their work, being courteous and polite (possibly holding a door open), showing respect to others, arriving at school in time for registration and having the correct uniform. Children also earn 5 points if they are picked to celebrate their work in the Thursday 'Star of the Week' assembly. Children additionally earn points through job roles - the wage of points is preparing children for their later life. Children save points and spend them at the academy swap shop. We will keep you updated as to who the current leaders are.



Literacy

Tigers, Meerkats and Leopards are continuing to study a different type of writing each fortnight. As the writing follows a cyclical pattern, the children enjoy the opportunity to revisit each type frequently, in order to become more confident and adept.

Big Writing is part of this pattern and allows the children to produce an independent piece of extended writing, to 'show off' what they know and have learnt.

Blogging forms an important part of our learning and we are keen for all children to share their ideas via the blog both at home and in school on a regular basis.

In our writing Tigers are continuing to base their writing on The Iron Man, Meerkats are using The Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Leopards are enjoying Harry Potter.



Maths

Each week we focus on a different area of the maths curriculum as well as dedicated using and applying lessons to embed maths basic skills. Areas we cover are: the four operations, measures, shape and shape and fractions and decimals.

So that we frequently revisit areas of the curriculum, we incorporate different maths lessons into our topic work too, for example, while studying Myths and Legends, the children will complete word problems in different contexts.

Keep an eye out for our Twitter feeds for pictures and work of your children enjoying their maths work.



Topic

Tigers, Meerkats and Leopards are learning about the Ancient Greeks in our exciting 'Myths and Legends' topic this term.

So far the children have: located Greece within Europe and discussed the features in the country, persuaded Thomas Cook to place Greece into their latest holiday brochure and had a look at the history of Ancient Greece and placed this on a timeline.

Over the coming weeks, we shall be covering many different areas of the curriculum within our 'Myths and Legends' topic.

P.E. / Sport

Tigers' lessons are on a Monday and a Friday.

Meerkats' lessons are on a Monday and a Wednesday.

Leopards' lessons are on a Monday and a Thursday.

The academy has supplied each child with an indoor P.E. kit, but trainers and outdoor kit may need to be worn in colder weather for outdoor P.E.



Homework

Homework will be set each week.

It will consist of:

- Online maths homework on My Maths website.
- Spellings to be practised in preparation for a weekly spelling test every Friday.
- Reading: each child will have their own reading book, which they will need to practise at home and answer one reading comprehension questions each week. This is given out on a Friday to be handed in the following Friday.



Uniform

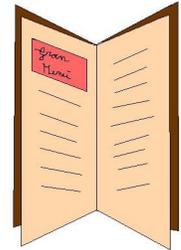
Could you please ensure that your child's name is clearly marked in each item of clothing as this helps greatly when things are lost, misplaced or unintentionally taken home by other children. Please check your child hasn't brought anything home by mistake. We may label uniform (not coats or outdoor shoes) if it is not clearly marked. If you do not wish for your child's uniform to be labelled, please contact the office to inform us. The lost property box is located in the main entrance.

As it is extremely cold outside could you please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for playtimes and lunch times. We thank you for your continued support with this.



Clubs

Clubs have begun again already this term. Please encourage your child to participate in as many as possible. If your child would like to suggest a club that is not currently running, please send them to see Mrs Leslie.



Don't forget to also take advantage of the reduced rate of school dinners for just 50p. Menus are available from the office.

Remember to keep up to date with us!



Leopards: @EstcourtYear3
Meerkats: @EstcourtYear4
Tigers: @EstcourtYear4_5

Blog: estcourtprimary.net

The children love having comments left on the blog. A huge thank you to all of the parents that have been doing so over the last year. Please continue to develop your child's writing for a purpose by encouraging them to write from home.

Website: <http://www.estcourtprimary.org.uk>

Purple Mash

We encourage the children to use Purple Mash. It is a learning tool which supports learning through fun games relating to Computing, History, Geography, Science, Maths, Literacy as well as PSHE and Celebrations and Faiths.

Bug Club

Along with this, children have the opportunity to use Bug Club at home to assist with their reading.

Children have been provided with a log in and password, if you have any queries about Purple Mash or Bug Club, please ask your child's teacher.