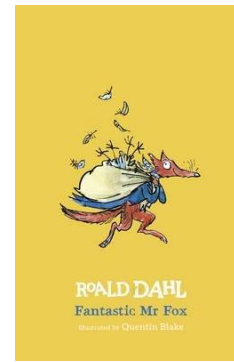


Elm Class Newsletter – Summer 1 2026



English

This half term, our learning is based on *Fantastic Mr Fox* by Roald Dahl, alongside non-fiction texts about foxes.

We will begin by developing descriptive writing skills, generating rich vocabulary to describe characters and expanding nouns with adjectives and detail. The children will explore a range of sentence openers and use figurative language, such as similes and metaphors, to make their writing more engaging.

They will then organise their ideas carefully to build a detailed character description.

Later in the unit, children will apply these skills to write a persuasive letter, focusing on clear arguments and effective language choices.

In Guided Reading, we will continue to develop retrieval and inference skills through both fiction and non-fiction texts. Please continue to support your child by reading regularly at home and discussing new vocabulary.

History

Our topic is a local history study of Maritime Greenwich, exploring why maritime life has been significant to our area.

Children will learn about key figures and events, including the Battle of Trafalgar. We will explore how Greenwich developed as an important naval location, including the role of the Old Royal Naval College and its links to the River Thames.

Science

Our topic is Light. Children will learn that light is needed to see, how it is reflected from surfaces, and how shadows are formed.

They will explore how shadows change size and investigate different materials, identifying whether they are transparent, translucent, or opaque. Children will also learn about how to stay safe in sunlight.

Maths

We will begin with mass and capacity, where children will learn to measure, compare, and calculate using grams, kilograms, millilitres, and litres. We will then move on to fractions, including adding and subtracting fractions, and finding fractions of amounts. Later in the term, we will study money, learning how to convert between pounds and pence, as well as add, subtract, and find change.

DT

We are continuing with our previous unit designing and building **river structures**.

Children will research different bridges, including **Tower Bridge**, before designing, building and evaluating their own model using mechanisms such as levers and hydraulics.

Additional Information

PE Days: PE will take place on Monday and Thursday afternoons. Please ensure your child has the correct kit in line with school guidelines.

Reading: Children are expected to read every night. Please record this in their reading records and ensure it is signed by a parent/guardian.

Times Tables: We encourage regular practice using Times Tables Rock Stars or other preferred methods to build fluency and confidence.

Religious Education

In RE, we are learning about Buddhism and the life of the Buddha. Children will explore the story of Siddhartha Gautama and his journey to enlightenment. They will learn about key teachings, including the Four Noble Truths, and consider how Buddhists try to live kind and thoughtful lives.