

## Spring Term in Kingfisher Class

**'Learn Together, Work Together, Grow Together'**



Dear Parents and Carers,

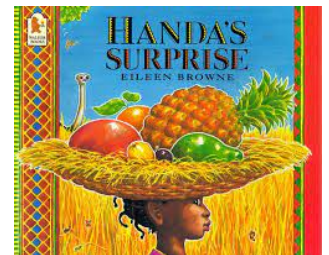
Firstly, a huge welcome back to you all. We hope that you had an enjoyable Christmas break and that 2024 has got off to a good start for you. We would like to warmly welcome Mrs Pearson to Kingfisher Class, as she will be working each Monday and Tuesday for the rest of the year.

It is hard to believe that we are already in the second term of your child's first year in school! The Spring term is shorter, but with still lots to fit in, we are going to be very busy.



Our learning for the term will focus around the topic **Our Wonderful Word**

Our first key text is '**Handa's Surprise**'. This will introduce the children to different fruits and animals from Africa which we will compare to those found in the United Kingdom. We will be using our senses to taste, describe and explore different fruits and considering how they grow. Much of our creative work will look at African art, including animal patterns. We will also be designing, creating and eating fruit kebabs!



Our second key text will be '**Welcome**'. This is a beautifully thoughtful story where a polar bear and his friends are swept away from their home and hope to find refuge in a new land. We will be learning about how to be kind, inclusive and welcoming to all! We will also be finding out about different animals, where they live and what it is like in different countries.

- **Reading** –We find that it helps to get into a routine with reading by doing it at the same time each day. Children enjoy routine, so this soon becomes part of a regular pattern. We will continue to hear the children at every available opportunity in school, but this should not be their only source of reading.

**Phonics** - Your children will have now had the opportunity to learn all of the Read Write Inc Set 1 sounds, including the 'special friends'. They will continue to practise these during the spring term to develop their blending fluency and build towards reading simple words, phrases and sentences.

Please use these QR codes to access Elly and Fred videos for practising the 'Special Friends'

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These Fred Games videos will be useful for practising to blend



We will also continue to add to your child's pack of **tricky words**, these are non-decodable words which cannot be sounded out in the usual way. It is important that the children learn to read these by sight.

- **PE** – Please ensure that they come to school in their kits on a **Friday**.
- **Outdoor Education**- This will be on a weekly basis. Please ensure that your child has a pair of wellies and waterproofs (we will keep them with us and send them home at half terms.) This term we will be identifying and naming birds and we will be taking part in the Big School Bird Watch 2024 and then working towards the RSPB Wild Challenge!

- **Value for Life** – As a Church of England school we follow the values for life, and this term it is Perseverance. Please do take every opportunity to chat to your child about this as we will be reflecting on justice and equality as part of Collective Worship and as part of daily school life.

### **Class Dates**

- Maths parent workshop - **Tuesday 16th January at 8.50am**
- Writing, scribing and story telling parent workshop - **Thursday 29th February at 8.50am**
- Kingfisher Class Assembly - **Tuesday 7th May at 9am**

Our priority is always the children and we know that those parents who become partners in learning truly improve the outcomes for their children. When parents are involved, children achieve more, they are happier, they develop greater self esteem and demonstrate good behaviour so please do get involved. It is a very special time in their lives and it whizzes by in a flash!

Kind regards,

Debbie Cheese, Jenny Pearson and Jill Smith