



Welcome Back!

We hope that you have all had a wonderful Christmas and were able to enjoy a bit of down time. It has been so lovely to see the children's happy faces returning back to school ready for a new term and lots of new learning and experiences.

Our Spring Term Curriculum

This term's topic comes under the heading of 'Can we challenge climate change?' This topic is geography based. The children will learn about longitude and latitude, time zones, biomes, how the world's climate has changed throughout history, the main causes of the climate crisis the world is currently facing and how we can help prevent climate changes disastrous consequences. We will also locate areas of the planet most affected by climate change, for example, the Arctic and Antarctic, and learn about their significance to the planet.

Wider Experiences!

To complement our exploration of climate change, we will be visiting Colchester Zoo and taking part in a conservation and climate change workshop. More information will come soon!

Science

In Science, we will be investigating Forces and Magnets and Light. Both units will involve lots of hands on activities! In our Forces and Magnets unit, we will learn about the different forces acting upon objects, how the speed of movement is affected by different surfaces and magnetism and magnetic materials.

In our Light unit, we will be learning about how light allows us to see, how light can be reacts to different surfaces including mirrors, how the light from the sun can be useful and harmful, how light creates shadows and how those shadows change depending on the location and strength of the light.

Home-Learning

Home learning continues to be an essential part of your child's learning and is set every Friday. It is expected to be brought in the following Friday, as this is when we mark it together and use it as a learning experience. Home learning prepares children for learning that they will be doing or consolidates learning they have been doing in class. Times Tables Rock Stars or SumDog is an important part of ongoing home learning. Children are also expected to read five times a week and to have this recorded in their diary.

Other useful reminders

Please ensure that your child **always** has the following items in school:

- Coat (**named**)
- Water bottle (**named**)
- PE kit including plimsolls and an outdoor kit including trainers (**named**)
- Book bag or similar with reading book and reading diary and homework folder.

Part of our safeguarding against COVID 19 involves keeping the classrooms well-ventilated which means windows are kept open. Please ensure you send your child in to school with a jumper or cardigan to prevent them becoming cold and distracted from their learning.

Remember that lots of important information can be found on the school website:

Our Calendar

<https://www.mistleynormancofe.co.uk/key-information/school-holidays-and-term-dates/>

Our Newsletters

<https://www.mistleynormancofe.co.uk/news/>

Our Curriculum

<https://www.mistleynormancofe.co.uk/curriculum-and-classes/birch/#tab-id-1>

Our Safeguarding

<https://www.mistleynormancofe.co.uk/key-information/information-hub/#safeguarding>