



Mundford Mail

The newsletter from **Mundford C of E Primary Academy** - Your school, your news!

<http://www.churchsidefederation.norfolk.sch.uk/mundford/>

Worship Theme: Compassion "Should you care more about yourself or others?"

Winning House Team: ROMANS

Stars of the Week

Oak: India
Hazel: Peyton
Maple: Elliot
Cedar: Lottie
Rowan: Lola
Elm: Sophie
Sycamore: Lily

Wow of the Week

Oak: Oakley
Hazel: Elsie
Maple: Artis
Cedar: Flynn
Rowan: Charlotte
Elm: Summer
Sycamore: Callum

What have we been doing this week? KS1

Oak Class have really enjoyed learning about Guy Fawkes and finding out 'Why do we have Fireworks?' They have made some amazing 'exploding' artwork!



Hazel Class have been learning about our school environment, we created sound maps. We have been learning how to brush our teeth. We have also been exploring capacity in Maths.

Maple have begun their Power of Reading book 'The Diary of a Killer Cat' and looked at key features of a diary. In maths we have been mastering number bonds 10 and 20. Today we had a fantastic time focussing on books and reading. We really enjoyed our look at Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes.

What have we been doing this week? KS2

In Cedar class, we have started our new class reader, 'The Little Island'. We have been looking at how different opinions can be voiced, and the impact these can have on others. This has really helped our writing and speaking skills develop.

Rowan had a fantastic book day today. We used our Maths skills (measuring length and perimeter) to make frames for recommending our favourite books to each other and then used our reading skills to read to Oak class.

In Elm class we have started a DT project and had the challenge to see who could make the longest bridge out of one sheet of A4 paper. It also had to be strong enough to support eight link cubes. We now have a number of potential engineers in our class.

In Sycamore class, we have been looking in depth at our RE question 'Does religion create peace or conflict?' and have had some great discussions over our big enquiry question during our RE days! The children have been very respectful over each other's ideas and contributions and we have found out lots about different religions and the ways they create a peaceful world.

Nursery Consultation.

A document has been produced answering all question raised during the consultation period. Please follow the link below:

<http://www.churchsidefederation.norfolk.sch.uk/mundford/>

The Poppy Appeal

Next week we will once again be selling poppies and other items to support the annual British Legion poppy appeal. In order to maintain our class bubbles, each class will have its own box within the classroom. Children will need to bring the money into school with them and can then choose their items. Unfortunately, we will be unable to allow parents to come and buy with their children. Suggested donations are: Snap Bands £1.50, Silicon Wristbands £1.00, Zip Pulls and Reflectors 50p

Please note: while we do allow the wearing of poppies & wristbands in school at this time of year, if they become a distraction children may have to leave them with their teacher and they will be returned at the end of the day.

Reading- Phonics

Reading is a life skill that unlocks all areas of learning for children. Each week we will be sharing information to help you support your children at home in becoming a fluent, enthusiastic reader.

There is no doubt that reading is a hard skill to master due to our complex language:

- English has a complex alphabetic code: 26 alphabet letters have to do duty singularly or in combination to represent the 44 or so sounds of English and they do so inconsistently.
- In Spanish, German and Welsh for instance, one grapheme almost always represents the same phoneme. English has more than 70 common correspondences between phonemes and graphemes and hundreds of rare ones.



This is why we spend the first few years in school teaching phonics, giving the children sound knowledge to aid reading fluency by breaking words into manageable chunks.

As pre-mentioned: the alphabet contains only 26 letters. Spoken English uses about 42 sounds (phonemes). These phonemes are represented by letters (graphemes). In other words, a sound can be represented by a letter (e.g. 's' or 'h') or a group of letters (e.g. 'th' or 'ear')

Once children begin learning sounds, they are used quickly to read and spell words. Children can then see the purpose of learning sounds. For this reason, the first six letters that are taught are 's', 'a', 't', 'p', 'i', 'n'. These can immediately be used to make a number of words such as 'sat', 'pin', 'pat', 'tap', 'nap'

As a parent, your involvement in supporting your child's learning will be a vital factor in determining their success in learning to read.

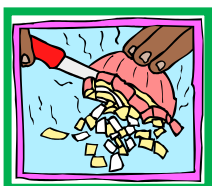
Blending—for reading



To learn to read well children must be able to smoothly blend sounds together. Blending sounds fluidly helps to improve fluency when reading. Blending is more difficult to do with longer words so learning how to blend accurately from an early age is imperative. Showing your child how to blend is important. Model how to 'push' sounds smoothly together without stopping at each individual sound.

It is also recommended to talk to your child about what blending is so they understand what they are trying to achieve.

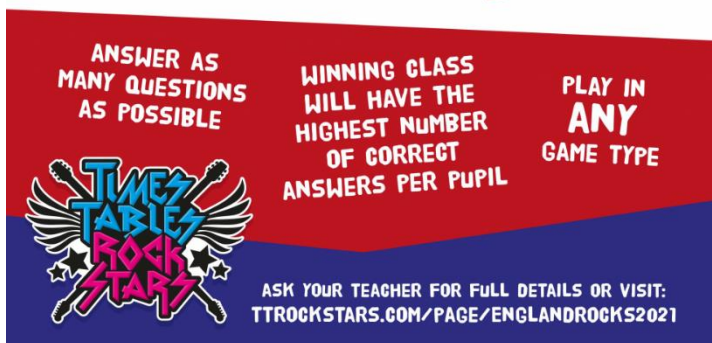
Segmenting—for spelling



Segmenting is a skill used in spelling. In order to spell the word cat, it is necessary to segment the word into its constituent sounds; c-a-t. Children often understand segmenting as 'chopping' a word. Before writing a word young children need time to think about it, say the word several times, 'chop' the word and then write it. Once children have written the same word several times they won't need to use these four steps as frequently.

Children will enjoy spelling if it feels like fun and if they feel good about themselves as spellers. We need, therefore, to be playful and positive in our approach – noticing and praising what children can do as well as helping them to correct their mistake.

Maths Week



For Maths Week England we want to make maths exciting and high profile in our school. We will be taking part in a friendly competition against other schools from Monday 8th November to Thursday 11th November, using Times Table Rockstars: <https://trockstars.com/>

For every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, your child will earn their class a point. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform will calculate the class average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who play during the competition hours, subject to a daily 60-minute limit (see below)). Winning classes in the school and in the competition as a whole will be the ones with the highest average.

All game modes (Gig, Garage, Studio, etc.) will count but only from games played between 7:30AM GMT and 7:30PM GMT on Monday 8th, Tuesday 9th, Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th. To support player wellbeing, there is a daily time limit of 60 minutes per player. In other words, each player can earn competition points for up to 60 minutes between 7.30am and 7.30pm. Once the player goes beyond 60 minutes of play on a given day, they will

still earn coins but will no longer earn points towards the competition.

In the spirit of the competition, please don't play on their behalf but by all means encourage and support them to the extent that it doesn't cause high stress levels or impact on family plans. We suggest a limit of half an hour a day outside school hours – some will play more, some will play less.

Christmas Light Switch - 5pm, 27th November

Tickets will be available to purchase for £1 each for a chance for your child to be entered into a draw to be selected to switch on the Christmas lights on the village green. Mrs Morris the Parish Council Clerk will be on the playground during drop off on the mornings of 12th & 19th November. All money collected will be donated to charity.

After-School Clubs – Can you help?

We are looking to broaden the range of after-school activities that we can offer for our pupils. Do you know any local sports clubs who might be interested in linking with the school? Do you have the skills yourself to run an after-school club? If you would like more information or think you can help, please contact the school office.



We are continuing to collect the “Good to Grow” tokens with Morrisons, to use for equipment for our school garden, so if you receive any please pass them on to us. Thank you in advance.

We are Reading

As a school, we want to promote a love of reading in every child. As well as daily reading sessions, each class also listens to a class reader. These books are carefully chosen to inspire children, broaden their reading experience and expose them to language they may not read independently.

Currently we are reading ...

Oak: *The Adventurous Snail* by Dick King-Smith

Hazel: *A Mouse called Miika* by Matt Haig

Maple: *Revolting Rhymes* by Roald Dahl

Cedar: *The Christmasaurus* by Tom Fletcher

Rowan: *Attack of the Demon Dinner Ladies* by Pamela Butchart

Elm: *The Last Wild* by Piers Torday

Sycamore: *Boy Giant* by Michael Morpurgo

Why don't you ask your child about the book? Have they enjoyed it? Can they tell you the story so far? What do they predict will happen next?

Diary Dates

Every effort is made to stick to the planned dates, but occasionally circumstances beyond our control may affect in-school events. We will always inform you as soon as possible of any changes. Thanks for understanding!

Monday 8th November: Maths Week see information above.

Wednesday 10th November: Y6/absentees, photographs & in school sibling groups.

Wednesday 15th December: Christmas Dinner

Christmas Holidays

Monday 20th December 2021- Wednesday 5th January 2022

Online Resources

Our main online platform is Google Classroom, and class teachers will share your child's log-in to their new class. The following resources can also be used to support your child's learning at home.

Letterjoin www.letterjoin.co.uk

Desktop Login username: **Mund** password: **ford**

Tablet Login username: **Mund** passcode: a capital 'L' shape starting at top left

This site allows children to practise their handwriting and spelling.

Purple Mash <https://www.purplemash.com/sch/mundford>

We use Purple Mash for teaching computing, but it also contains games sections for practising English & Maths at home.

Bug Club <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/>

Bug Club is our online library of reading books, where you will find books assigned to your child's reading ability.

Spelling Shed <https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/>

Here you can play online games to practice spelling, as well as the assigned weekly spellings for your child's class.

Numbots <https://play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login/35246> & **TT Rockstars**

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth>

Practice number facts and times table in a fun game-based situation.

If your child needs their log-in details for any of these, please contact the class teacher.

School Uniform

<https://corporatetiger.co.uk/?sfw=pass1614943921>

www.facebook.com/myclothingltd

END OF NEWSLETTER