



Welcome to Hedgehog Class!

I hope you all had a wonderful half term and are feeling refreshed and ready for the weeks ahead. We have lots of exciting activities planned for Autumn 2! This term, PE will take place on **Wednesdays and Thursdays**, so please ensure your child has the correct kit in school on those days. We continue to focus on school uniform this half term, as we take pride in presenting a smart and unified school image. With this in mind, please make sure your child **wears the correct uniform** each day, and that all items brought to school are **clearly labelled with their name**. As always, I'm happy to chat—please feel free to catch me on the playground at the end of the day if you have any questions or concerns. I'm really looking forward to an amazing half term ahead!

English:

This half term, our English learning will be inspired by two wonderful books — 'Dear Earth' by Isabel Otter and Clara Anganuzzi, and 'Astro Girl' by Ken Wilson-Max.

With 'Dear Earth', we'll explore how to share our dreams and ideas through writing. We'll focus on forming questions, using conjunctions, writing factual statements, and building sentences with strong noun phrases and verbs. We'll also learn how to group information, describe using adjectives, and explain our reasoning clearly.

Through 'Astro Girl', we'll dive into space-themed adventures! We'll practise describing what we see, identifying nouns in sentences, and taking part in role play to bring the story to life. We'll use descriptive adjectives and key vocabulary to write exciting fact files, learning about non-fiction features, "bossy" verbs, and how to ask and answer questions effectively.

By the end of the half term, children will have developed confidence in both their creative and factual writing, using a wide range of sentence structures and vocabulary.

Maths:

This half term in Maths, the children will continue to build their understanding of numbers and shapes.

We'll begin by exploring place value, focusing on counting in tens and recognising how numbers can be grouped into tens and ones. The children will learn how to partition numbers in different ways and represent them using a place value chart. They'll also use number lines to estimate and compare numbers, as well as to practise finding one more and one less. By the end of this unit, the children will be able to confidently compare and order numbers, showing a secure understanding of place value.

Next, we'll move on to our shape unit, where the children will learn to recognise and name 2-D and 3-D shapes. They will count the sides and vertices of 2-D shapes, draw their own examples, and look at lines of symmetry. We'll then explore 3-D shapes, counting faces, edges, and vertices, and sorting shapes based on their properties. The children will also spot and create patterns using both 2-D and 3-D shapes.

Towards the end of the term, we'll spend time recapping any areas that need more practice, complete end-of-unit and end-of-term assessments, and enjoy some Christmas-themed maths activities that bring together everything we've learned so far.

The Wider Curriculum:

This half term in **RE**, we will be thinking about what makes each of us special and unique. We will learn what Jewish people believe about being special to God and read stories from the Bible and the Torah that show how people are cared for. The children will think about who cares for them and how they can help to care for others and the world. We'll also learn about the Jewish festival of Tu B'Shevat, which celebrates trees and nature. At the end of the term, we'll look at the Christian Christmas story and why Christmas is important to Christians. This half term in **Science**, we will be learning all about plants. The children will find out what a plant is and learn the different parts of plants. We will explore wild and garden plants and the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees. They will have the chance to sort seeds and discover which parts of plants we can eat. **History** this half term, will see the children exploring their own history and finding out how to discover more about themselves. They will explore special events, what childhood was like in the past, and think about how they are making history today. In **DT**, the children will learn about mechanisms and movement by exploring sliders. They will design, make, and finish their own slider game, and enjoy a Christmas-themed activity. In **Computing** this half term, the children will learn how to paint using computers, which will mean exploring shapes and lines, making careful choices and creating their own computer art, before comparing it with traditional painting. The children will learn about who is special to them and why these people are important in **PSHE**. They will also explore what bullying is and think about their social and emotional wellbeing both at school and at home. **PE** this half term will focus on our fitness, learning how to keep our bodies healthy and strong through a range of fun activities. We will also develop our gymnastics skills, exploring movement, balance, and coordination in a safe and enjoyable way.

Homework:

Reading at home plays a vital role in your child's learning, and I encourage you to read to your child, listen to them read, and fill in their reading record to keep me updated. **This should be done at least three times a week**. All the children will be on Lexia – their login information is in their reading records.