Year 1/2
2026- 2027
AUTUMN TERM

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful summer break and are looking forward to the start of a new year. I am so excited to get to know the children and share all of our amazing work with you.

Topic

This term, our topic is a 'Create' topic, titled 'Carnival of the Animals'. This will primarily link with our science unit of People and their Pets as well as our Design and Technology unit. Our key enquiry question is: 'Are animals more important than humans?'.

This topic will give children opportunities to understand that animals, including humans, have offspring that grow and develop into adults. They will learn about the basic needs animals have and explore how these needs help living things stay healthy. Children will also develop an understanding of the importance of regular exercise, eating a balanced diet with the right amounts of different types of food, and maintaining good hygiene to support health and wellbeing. Through these experiences, pupils will build their knowledge of growth, survival, and healthy lifestyles while developing an appreciation of how to care for themselves and other living things.

Visits

We will be having a visit to Hatfield Forest to explore all sorts of fascinating habitats and learn more about our local wildlife. This will link closely to our science topic.

Reading

The expectation is that children are supported with their reading at home, reading 5 days a week. Children should be reading aloud to support oral language development and fluency, and adults should be engaging with the text children are reading, asking questions to check their understanding. Children who are accessing phonics books should read these texts 3 times – once for decoding, once for fluency and once for comprehension. Each time children read, this should be noted in their reading diary by an adult.

SMART Learning

Children will have their Doodle login details in the front of their reading diary. The expectation is that they complete all four Doodle apps daily (Maths, English, Spell

and Times Tables). This takes around ten minutes but makes a significant difference to progress.

Below are some ideas for projects that children may want to have a go doing at home:

- Making presentations about their pets at home and how they care for them.
- Create model animals
- Spotting animals/signs of animals in nature
- Make a bird feeder
- Make a pet profile

I am really looking forward to this term and to sharing all our learning with you. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions about any of the above.

Thank you.

Miss Gleeson
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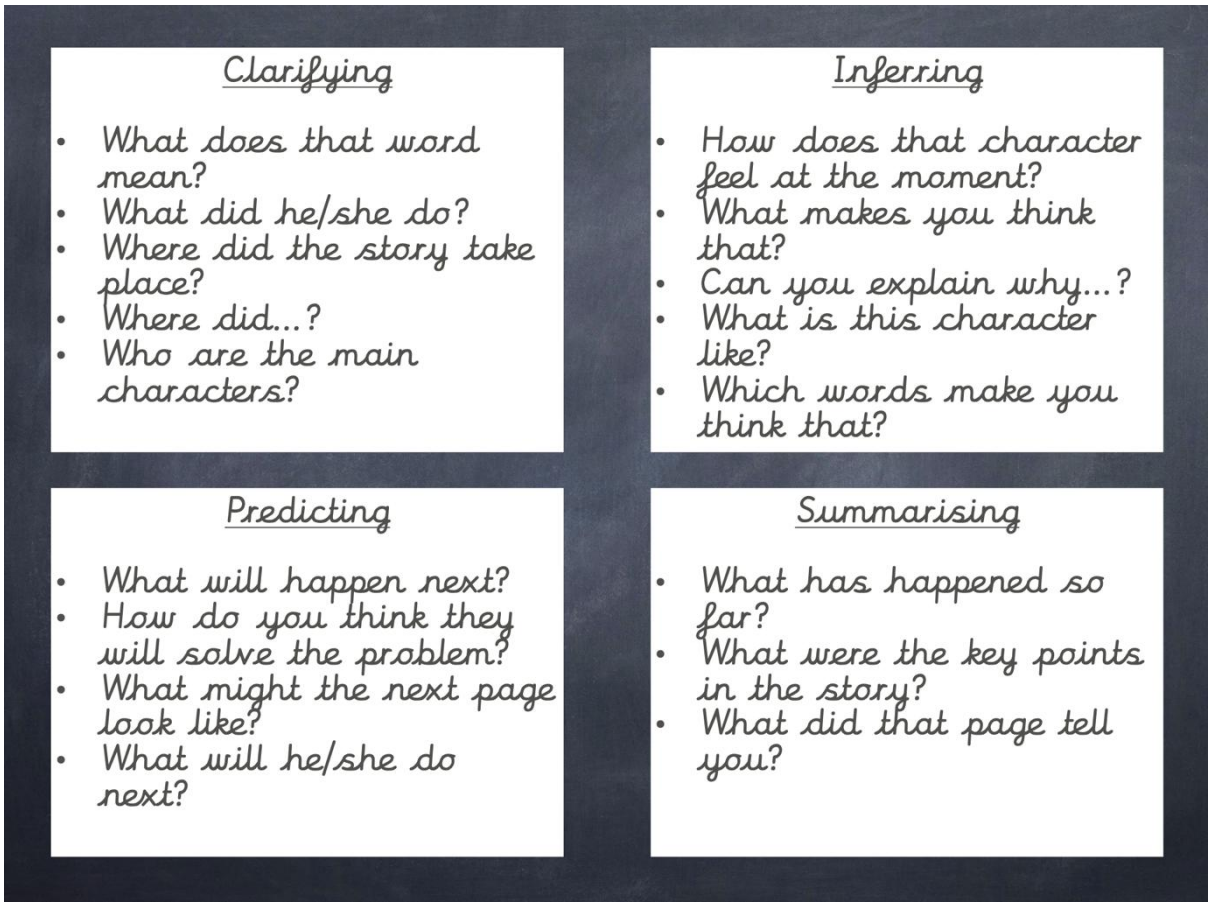
Reading Comprehension Questions