

# Welcome Back to 2023!

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to starting another exciting term in Year Two. During the first half term we will be studying Kenya and comparing it to England. In the second half term we will be learning about microhabitats and mini-beasts. Remember, if you have any questions or need to contact us you can do so by email—  
[mrs.mccarthy@greattotham.sch.co.uk](mailto:mrs.mccarthy@greattotham.sch.co.uk) or [mrs.browne@greattotham.sch.co.uk](mailto:mrs.browne@greattotham.sch.co.uk)

## Homework

We would like you to focus on reading regularly at home with your child— **at least three times a week.**

We would also like you to practise the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables **at least twice a week.** Chanting the tables by rote, playing 'Hit the button' online and continuing to practise the Pascal tests will aid fluency.

This term, our PE days will be on Monday and Wednesday.

Please ensure all uniform is labelled with your child's name and is in line with the school uniform policy, which is available on the website.



### Parents' Evenings

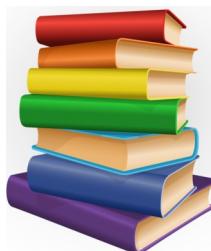
8th & 9th February—details to follow

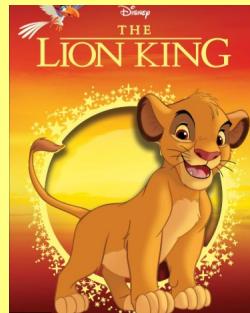
**INSET—20th & 21st February**

One of the most important ways to help support your child is hearing them read regularly and reading to them. The best approach is little and often, just 10 minutes each day makes a difference.

Reading books are checked on a Monday.

Children change their own books and books must be brought in daily.





## English

Throughout the term the children will be developing their reading, writing and spelling skills. They will be learning how to use commas, adverbs, apostrophes and extend their sentences using the words when, if, but and or. We will be using the Lion King film to inspire our descriptive writing. The book Handa's Surprise will help us develop story writing skills. We will also be looking at instructions and recounts.

## Design & Technology

This term we will be making hand puppets. The children will be making fairy-tale characters - and hopefully using our puppets to tell the stories later in the year. As part of the design process they will investigate the different ways they can join a variety of materials and they will have the opportunity to practise their sewing skills.

## Art

In art we will be making a sculpture of a Kenyan mask out of papier mache. We will be using our colour mixing skills from Year 1 to add detail by painting our masks.

## Computing

During our computing lessons the children will learn how to research information safely online. They will continue to practise their typing skills.



## Maths

Over the term, the children will continue to work on their calculation skills. They will practise applying the 2, 5 and 10 times tables and related division facts to help them solve a variety of problems in different contexts. We will also be looking at fractions of numbers and of shapes including halves, thirds and quarters. We will continue to practise reading 5 minute time.

## P.E.

In outdoor P.E. the children will continue to develop their skills through a variety of games involving attacking, defending and scoring. We will be creating our own gymnastic sequences and work to improve our rolls and balances.

## Spelling

Spelling sessions continue daily and are a key element in Year Two. Any practise with the ideas and games already sent home will help support your child. Please ask for extra copies if you'd like them.

## Geography

This term the children will be learning about the locations of the equator, the seven continents and the five oceans. They will be comparing human and physical features of England and Kenya.

## R.E.

We will look at a variety of special symbols and objects in Christianity, Judaism and Islam. We will explore what they are and the importance they hold in each faith.

## Science

In the first half term the children will be learning about habitats in hot and cold places. They will also create simple food chains.

Later in the term the children will be studying micro habitats, for example a pile of leaves or under a log.