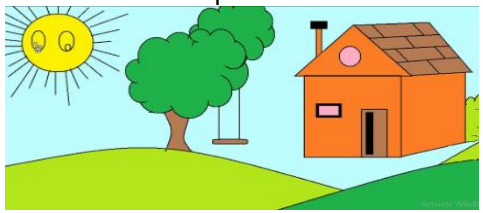
Science

We will be learning about animals by investigating their characteristics. We will learn how to sort and classify in different ways.



Computing

During computing this half term, we will develop our skills using digital paint. We will look at a range of artist's work and make choices with colour, tools and composition.



RE

We will be exploring the big question:

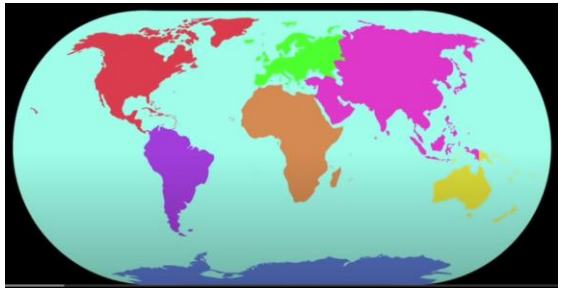
'Why is light an important symbol for Christians, Jews and Hindus?'

Music

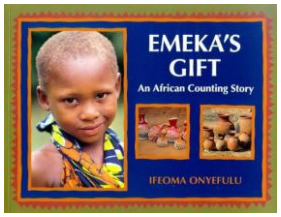
We will be treating you to a Christmas performance of 'The Twinkly Nativity'!

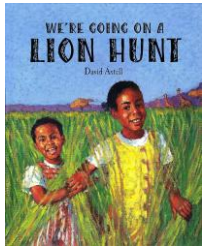
Geography

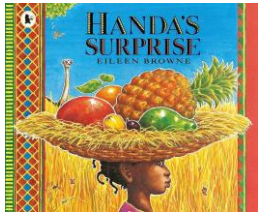
We will be learning a song about the seven continents. We will also be exploring and comparing the island of Madagascar to the UK and Mersea.



African Adventure







PSHE

This half term we will be learning about diversity and celebrating our similarities and differences.

We will discuss the different groups and communities that we belong to both inside and outside of school.

We will learn the difference between fair and unfair behaviour and suggest ways in which we can show kindness to others.

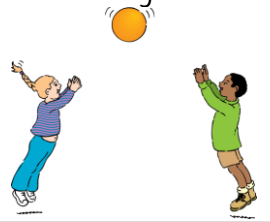
Art

Children will be continuing to experiment with colour mixing. We will produce African style patterns. Also, we be looking at the work of African artist Edward Tinga Tinga and using his work to inspire our own.



PE

This half term we will continue working on team games. The children will further develop their throwing and catching skills.



Important Dates

Africa Dress Up Day
Wednesday 4th November

Year 1 Phonics Morning to parents
Thursday 12th November 9am – 9:15am

Parents Evening
3:30pm - 8:00pm

Year 1 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 2nd December 2:30pm - 3:15pm

Thursday 3rd December 2:30pm – 3:15pm

Reading
In school we have daily shared reading sessions, where children will join in with key words and learn how to add expression to their voices. We will continue to acquire new phonics skills and learn new graphemes and common exception words. Please encourage your child to use their phonetic skills when reading with you at home.

Writing
We will be continuing to perfect our sentence building skills, in particular the oral rehearsal of complete sentences in preparation to write. When writing their sentences, children will be concentrating on the correct placement of finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. They will draw on their segmentation skills in order to spell words.

Handwriting
We will continue to practise forming lower-case and upper-case letters correctly. Please practice these at home to help to secure correct letter formation and placement on the line.

Numbers to 20
We will be identifying, representing, comparing and ordering numbers to 20.
We will also be doubling, halving and working to find one more and one less.

Addition and Subtraction to 20
We will be exploring different strategies including 'Make Ten' and using known facts to add and subtract within 20.

Please remember there is an open door policy at Mersea Island School.
Please feel free to ask us any questions, we will be on the door at the end of the day.
You can also email on the class email and we will endeavour to respond within 24 hours.

Details of any appointments that your child may have in school time should be sent to the office email: office@merseaschool.org
If it is urgent and you need to speak to someone then please contact the office and a member of our leadership team will speak with you.

How can you help?

- Encourage independent learning around our topic. Again, we strongly encourage all children to partake in independent learning and will do our best to give them the opportunity to share it with the class.
- We are always looking to expand our vocabulary, if you come across any interesting wow words (adjectives) in shared reading please encourage your child to bring them in and share them with us. This will prove invaluable in their written work!
- Continue to use real life situations to practise maths e.g. when setting the dinner table, when counting totals of coins.
- Practice daily reading of school and library books.
- Practice children's reading of common exception words sent home in their yellow booklets, as well as their graphemes in the pink booklets.

Things to remember

- Named water bottle, reading book and PE kit, in school every day.
- Please can you ensure your child has a **WINTER PE KIT** as we will go out in all weather (navy blue track suit).
- The school's homework policy expects children to be reading four times a week, or five for a ship token.

Please remember to tell your child's teacher if your child is going home with a different adult.