



Reception Newsletter Summer 2!

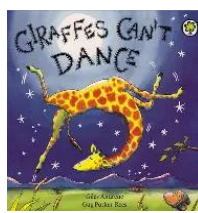


"We moved like different animals who live in Africa. We were stomping around like Rhinos."

As the come to the end of their year in Reception, we would like to celebrate the fantastic progress the children have made and the enthusiasm they have shown throughout their learning. This half term, our enquiry question, "**What do we need to survive?**", encouraged the children to investigate how people and animals live in a variety of environments. Through stories, discussions, creative activities and practical investigations, the children have explored habitats ranging from the African savannah, to the deep sea and rock pools. The children developed their understanding of how living things adapt to meet their need for food, water and shelter, whilst comparing them between different places around the world. It has been a wonderful final topic, showcasing the children's curiosity, confidence and growing independence as they prepare for their exciting move into Year 1.

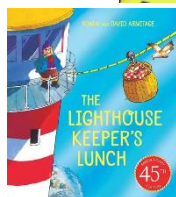
The African Savannah

Our learning began with Giraffes Can't Dance, which inspired the children to explore how animals survive in the African savannah. They asked thoughtful questions about how giraffes find food, water and shelter, and discovered how animals are specially adapted to live in hot climates. The children compared life in the African savannah with life in the UK, considering how people and animals meet their basic needs in different environments. They also enjoyed creating vibrant savannah-inspired artwork, experimenting with colour mixing to paint beautiful sunsets, and moving like African animals to explore how they exercise, travel and stay safe in the wild.



The Lighthouse and the Coast

We started our week by reading The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch, which the children thoroughly enjoyed and were fascinated by how Mr Grinling lived and worked in a lighthouse surrounded by the sea. The children explored what people need to survive in challenging coastal environments, including food, water and shelter. They investigated how pulley systems work, designed their own lighthouses and discovered how these amazing structures help to keep sailors safe.



"Pirate Pete can use a baby spoon to dig for his treasure."

Sports Day

We had a fantastic Sports Day, and it was amazing to see so many of you there cheering on and supporting all of the children. We really appreciate you taking the time to come along and celebrate their achievements. The children were incredible in their races, showing great determination and teamwork, especially during the relay and cone races.

The Deep Sea

The children loved exploring the deep sea and learning how marine animals survive in their underwater habitats. They shared ideas about what humans would need to live beneath the ocean and compared these with the needs of whales and other sea creatures. They also enjoyed making predictions about how whales find food and stay safe, creating 3D Baleen Whale models, and exploring the differences between real marine animals and mythical sea creatures through stories, discussion and creative activities.

"If Whales get scared, they may go and hide in a cave or really deep in the sea."



The Rockpool

Building on last week's deep-sea learning, the children explored life in Rockpools and discovered how crabs survive in a habitat that changes from wet to dry as the tides change.

This week the children:

- Investigated how crabs find food, water and shelter to survive
- Designed shells to protect crabs from predators
- Created artwork inspired by our learning of The Rockpool.



Pirates

This week, the children have been enjoying a pirate adventure through our story *Pirate Pete*. During Drawing Club, they created their own drawings of Pirate Pete and a new crew mate, then used their imaginations to invent funny ways for him to collect his lost treasure. In maths, the children explored parts and wholes and practised doubling Pirate Pete's treasure, which they did brilliantly. It has been wonderful to see their creativity and imagination come to life as they played and explored in our pirate ship role-play area.

Important information

The last day of school, before the summer holidays is the **22nd July 2026**.