

Dear Parents, Welcome back!

In **Spring 2**, Elm class will be looking at adventure stories where the characters show courage and determination to go

on exciting quests. Additionally, this term, as part of 'Book Week,' the children will write book reviews about on their favourite authors.

The books we will be using are **"The Lonely Beast" by Chris Judge** and **"Journey" by Aaron Becker**.



Elm Year 2 children will be reading, **'books by Dick King-Smith called 'Dumpling' and 'Blessu.'**



Children will learn to use questions in newspaper articles and they will create a new character for their own story.

*Some story **vocabulary** might be new to your child so please help him/her with learning to understand these words. **Your child will receive new vocabulary, at the beginning of each term, to practice at home.**

In Elm class, children will practice independently retelling and sequencing the stories in different ways. We will continue to use 'colourful semantics' frames to talk and write about the characters, settings and events in the stories. We will revise the children's understanding of the beginning, middle and end of stories and use story visuals and time adverbs frames to support them. Developing the children's sentence writing and using a capital letter at the beginning, finger spaces between each word and a full stop at the end, remains a focus. We continue to progress in our understanding of the **'who', 'what', 'what doing', 'why' and 'where'** within a sentences structure.

The website **BBC Bitesize** has many videos and activities to help explain the **skills your child needs** are below. Please speak to **Ms Pack** if you need further support with this.

❖ Using finger spaces:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z4tbcmn>

❖ Capital letters and full stops:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zpvw7yc/articles/z7s48hv>

❖ Using punctuation: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zmygsk7>

❖ Adding suffixes – ing and –ed to words:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z66nv82>

❖ Adding “s” and “es” to make plurals: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z66nv82>

❖ Adding “un” to the beginning of a word to change the meaning:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z76yp4j>

We continue to use **Little Wandle Letters and Sounds (revised) phonics scheme** to teach your child phonics. The Little Wandle Letters and Sounds (revised) website has lots of helpful information about the phonemes that we teach in Elm class with videos showing how to pronounce all of the different sounds and how we teach blending and reading.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

This link onto YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP_FbjYUP_UtldV2K_-niWw has videos of the Little Wandle phonics lessons that we teach, in the order that we teach them. They are helpful if you are unsure about how to pronounce any of the phonemes that your child is learning. Look for Spring Term Reception or Year 1 lessons, select Play All and then scroll down to Lesson 1. The teaching order together with letter formation practice is also in the half termly phonics booklet given out at the beginning of each half term. Year 2 and 3 pupils in Elm will continue to learn and practice their phonics knowledge.

Many thanks,

Elm Class Team



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|---|---|--|---|
| beast/ creature (an animal) | lonely (sad because you have no friends) | alone (no-one else is with you) | journey (travelling somewhere) |
| quest (a long and difficult search for someone or something) | tending (looking after) | undertake (carry out or do) |  determination (to do something and not let anyone stop you until it is done) |

