

Mars Class Newsletter February 2026



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely half term break.

We were very proud of all the children for their hard work last term and we are looking forward to lots of exciting learning ahead this term.



Term 4 Topic:

This term, we are continuing our key question: "What if I met an explorer or inventor?" In our history lessons, we will be learning about who Mary Anning was and why her achievements are significant in history. We will also be looking at how Isambard Kingdom Brunel and Mary Anning were similar and different.

In English we will be reading 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers and learning to write a narrative, this will be followed by writing an advert to persuade our audience.

In Maths, we are learning multiplication and division before moving onto fractions.

In Science, we are continuing the topic 'Everyday materials.' We will recap everyday materials such as wood, plastic, metal, glass, fabric and paper. The children will explore how materials can change shape and look at why certain materials sink or float.

Please find the links to our knowledge organiser and curriculum map below:

https://www.northroadprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/What-if-I-met-a-great-explorer_Knowledge-Organiser-v2.pdf

<https://www.northroadprimaryschool.co.uk/curriculum>

On Tuesdays, we will do News Clues. This is a time for the children to share a piece of news or talk about something that they have done at home. We will be asking the children to think of three clues that they can give to the rest of the class to spark a discussion about what they are going to share. This term will be the Year 1s, please see the dates below.

Tuesday 3 rd March	Ella, Laina, Noah
Tuesday 10 th March	Freddie, Alfie, Rosalie
Tuesday 17 th March	Stella, Frankie G, Bella Rae
Tuesday 24 th March	Isabella, Ralph, Ronny

Reading Books

Reading books and reading records should be brought to school **DAILY** in a book bag. A member of the class team will read with each child weekly, so it is really important to have a book/diary in school. Children need to place their book in the box at the front of the classroom when it needs to be changed. A reminder that **1 HOME READ and 1 SCHOOL READ** per day can go towards children's reading awards. This must be from a children's school reading book, any reading for pleasure your child does will not count towards their reading awards. We really appreciate your support with reading with the children at home. Please can you continue to ask children to retell you the story after they have read and use the questions on their bookmark to aid their comprehension.

Homework

In Mars class we expect all the children to be doing learning at home each day. This comprises of daily reading and use of the comprehension bookmarks to select a question from to ask your child, these will be put in your child's reading diary this week. **PLEASE DO NOT LOSE THEM AS THEY WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE END OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR.** TT Rockstars (Y2) / Numbots (Y1) should also be used to practise maths daily. Children will also be given a times table pick and mix sheet that will include a range of activities that they can complete. This will be sent home on **Thursdays**. Completing homework is monitored, children who complete their homework will be awarded a Dojo at the end of the week. A reminder that the child with the most Dojo points will receive a prize from the prize box on a Friday afternoon. Any extra homework completed can be sent via Class Dojo for us to celebrate in class.

Vocabulary

We will be learning and using new vocabulary across the term. Please support your child to use this language when talking about their learning at home.

English	Maths	Topic	Science
Narrative – connected events to make a story	Fraction – a part of a whole e.g. $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$	Significant – of great value.	Material – anything that is used to make something else
Coordinating conjunction – a joining word (and, but, or, so) that connects words, phrases or clauses	Numerator – the number above the line in a fraction. It shows how many parts we have out of the whole Denominator - the number below the line in a fraction. It shows the total amount of parts that something has been divided into.	Inventor – a person who create something new to solve a problem or improve life Engineer – a person whose job it is to design or build machines, engines or electrical equipment.	Fabric – a piece cloth Wood – a material that comes from trees
Subordinating conjunction - a joining word (when, if, that, because) that connects clauses	Multiply – finding the total when we have the same number added again and again (for example, 3 groups of 2 makes 6).	Isambard Kingdom Brunel – a British engineer.	Plastic – a manmade material that can be melted to change its shape
Question Mark - A punctuation mark used at the end of an question	Divide – sharing or splitting a number into equal groups (for example, sharing 6 sweets between 2 children gives 3 each).	Mary Anning – a famous fossil hunter Fossil - any preserved remains, impression, or trace of any once-living thing from a past geological age Palaeontologist – a scientist who studies the history of life on Earth by examining fossils.	Metal – a shiny and strong material that id found in the ground Property – a characteristic of something Opaque – something that does not let light through Transparent – something that is see through

In Mars Class our PE days are Wednesdays and Fridays.

This term we will be learning the skills needed to play Hockey.

Please be aware that when our PE unit takes place in the Hall, for Health and Safety regulations, the children will be required, to take part in bare feet.

Please arrive for PE on these days wearing the school PE uniform:

- School PE hoodies
- Black jogging bottoms
- Black trainers
- PE t-shirts
- Long hair should be tied back
- Earrings removed or tape to cover

Celebration Assemblies

On Wednesdays, we will continue to celebrate children's personal achievements in art, science and technology. If your child has created something at home that reflects our school values—such as artwork, a craft project, or a Lego model—please send me a dojo message and your child can bring it in to share in assembly. Don't forget to send in any certificates / badges/ achievements awarded from outside of school so that we can share them in our Thursday Celebration assemblies.

Spelling

Spelling will be a key focus across the school for the remainder of the year. When children successfully apply the spellings they have learnt into their writing, we will celebrate their achievement in school.

Please keep a look out for spelling lists which will be sent home later this term.

For your information, below is a list of spellings that every child in Year 1 and Year 2 should be able to spell correctly.

Year 1		
the	they	one
a	be	once
do	he	ask
to	me	friend
today	she	school
of	we	put
said	no	push
says	go	pull
are	so	full
were	by	house
was	my	our
is	here	
his	there	
has	where	
I	love	
you	come	
your	some	

Year 2			
door	gold	plant	clothes
floor	hold	path	busy
poor	told	bath	people
because	every	hour	water
find	great	move	again
kind	break	prove	half
mind	steak	improve	money
behind	pretty	sure	Mr
child	beautiful	sugar	Mrs
children	after	eye	parents
wild	fast	could	Christmas
climb	last	should	everybody
most	past	would	even
only	father	who	
both	class	whole	
old	grass	any	
cold	pass	many	

Science Week

We are excited to be celebrating British Science Week 2026 in school from Tuesday 10th March. Children will be taking part in fun and engaging science activities in their classrooms. These activities will encourage curiosity, creativity, and a love of discovery as pupils explore how science works in the world around them. We look forward to sharing some of the fantastic investigations and learning that takes place.

Dates for your Diary

05/03 - World Book Day

06/03-15/03 - British Science Week

18/03 - Open Classrooms

20/03 - Red Nose Day

31/03 and 01/04 - Parents' Evening's - sign up via Arbor

02/04 - Easter Celebration Assembly at 2pm

02/04 - Last Day of Term

Kind Regards,

Miss Ali and the Mars Class Team.