

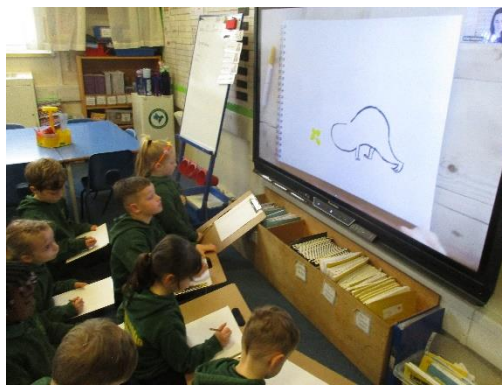
Mars Class Newsletter April 2026



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely Easter 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, our key question is "What if I went somewhere hot?" In our geography lessons, we will be learning about Kenya. We will look at where Kenya is located, identify physical and human features and the weather in Kenya. We will use the information to make comparisons between Yate and Kenya.

In English, we will be having a big focus on handwriting and spelling. For our key text, we are reading 'Meerkat Mail' by Emily Gravett to write a narrative and postcards. Our non-fiction writing will focus on writing a non-chronological report about Kenya.

In Maths, we are learning about measurement. We will be exploring how to measure length, mass and capacity. After this, we will move on to position and direction, before consolidating everything we have learned throughout the year.

In Science, we will start with looking at changes to seasons and then move onto 'Living things and their habitats.' We will look at the differences between winter and spring and then summer. For our next topic, we will identify living things and explore different habitats.

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

https://www.northroadprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Mars-Class-Knowledge-Organiser_What-if-I-went-somewhere-hot.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 2s, please see the dates below.

Tuesday 28 th April	Parker, Callie, Zayne
Tuesday 5 th May	Everly, Mia, Ellis, Freddie
Tuesday 12 th May	Avie, Ethan, Haydn, Ava
Tuesday 19 th May	Vienna, Jake, Dougie, Aliya

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 –	Measurement	Kenya	Habitat
Coordinating conjunction– (and, but, or, so)	Length	Continent	Micro-habitat
Subordinating conjunction- (when, if, that, because)	Height	Physical feature	Environment
	Weight	Human feature	Living

Exclamation Mark	Mass	Atlas	Dead
Question Mark	Capacity	Compare	Non-living
Non-chronological report	Position	Weather	
	Direction		

PE

In Mars Class our PE days are Wednesdays and Fridays.

This term we will be doing Kwik Cricket and Tri-golf.

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

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	

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.

Dates for your Diary

24/4 - Own Clothes Day

04/4- Bank Holiday Monday and May Day celebration in Iron Acton

22/4 - Last Day of Term

Kind Regards,

Miss Ali and the Mars Class Team.