



Crofton Infant School

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23rd February 2010

Dear Parents

This half term Year 2 will be following a unit of work on a theme which focuses on '**Living Things**'.

This unit of work is part of the International Primary Curriculum. This new curriculum sets out very clearly what children will learn – the learning goals - in three different areas:

- The subjects of the curriculum. The learning goals for each of these subjects are at least as challenging as anything taught in the National Curriculum. In many cases, the learning goals are more challenging.
- Personal development – the characteristics which will help children become responsible, independent learners.
- International understanding – which will help children develop both a sense of the independence of their own country and culture and the interdependence between countries and cultures.

Each unit of work is based around specific targets derived from the learning goals for one or more of the subjects.

During this unit we will be focusing on art, geography, physical education, information and communication technology and science. We'll also be developing our understanding of the world.

<p>In art we'll be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drawing and painting living things • looking at the ways that others have represented living things. 	<p>In information technology we'll be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exploring other places around the world • contacting other people around the world and finding out about their lives.
<p>In geography we'll be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • finding out how people live in different places • finding out what they need for life • finding out where they could live – and why. 	<p>In science we'll be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • finding out what lives in our school – and why it lives where it does • going on a 'life hunt' • growing plants • looking at how humans change through their lives.
<p>In PE we'll be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparing a presentation to celebrate life 	<p>We'll also find out about other people in our country and how their lives are the same and different from those of people in other parts of the world.</p>

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All of the learning we are going to do has been specially written to help your child reach the learning goals. Children will be reading, researching, writing, illustrating, working on their own and working in groups. We will be checking how well your child has learned through particular activities and by asking children to explain their work, perhaps to you.

To engage the children in their learning, the theme will begin with a visit from **Eagle Heights** (www.eagleheights.co.uk) on **25th and 26th February**. Mr Alan Ames will bring to school a selection of birds of prey and some reptiles, and we will learn how they have adapted to their environment. This wonderful service is free to schools. In order to cover costs, Mr Ames provides a photographic service in which he takes a photograph of your child with one of the birds of prey. He provides a 5"x7" mounted colour print at a cost of **£5.00** which needs to be booked and paid for in advance. (Please see separate letter sent out before half term for further details.)

Reptile Razzamatazz will be in school to visit the children on **11th and 12th March**. For this we will be asking for a voluntary contribution of **£1.00** per child to be paid via **PARENTPAY**.

Learning will be further enhanced with an educational visit to BEECHE – Bromley Environmental Education Centre at **High Elms**. These visits will take place on **16th, 17th and 18th March**. We will be requesting a voluntary contribution of **£15.50** for this visit. (Please see separate letter for further details.)

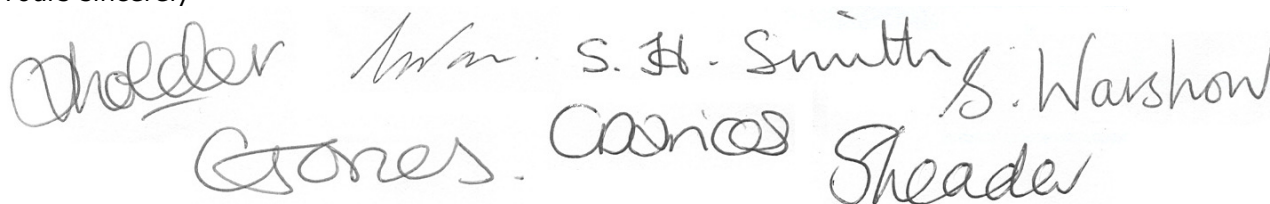
If you can, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and let them teach you if they can.

If your child has some work to research please help them – but without actually doing the work yourself! If you have the chance to further their interest in the ideas of this theme please take it – but your enthusiasm and interest are most important.

You might want to grow your own plant with your child at home, noticing what the plant needs and the changes which happen over time. If you have a garden, help your child to notice the cycle of growth and decay.

By the end of the unit, we hope your child will have achieved all of the learning targets. We hope they have had an enjoyable time in the classroom and we hope you have enjoyed seeing your child work with enthusiasm. If you have any comments about the work your child has done, please get in touch.

Yours sincerely



The Year 2 Team

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Year 2 Living Things - Reptile Razzamatazz

Pupil's Name..... Class.....

I have paid £ **via PARENTPAY** as a contribution towards the Reptile Razzamatazz visit.

If your child has any animal related allergies, please give details here

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Signed Date.....