



September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of the Marvellous Meerkats class,

We hope you have had a wonderful summer, we have enjoyed welcoming the children back to school. The children are settling into the routine of our Meerkats day, establishing new relationships and reconnecting with old ones too.

For your information, a typical day in Meerkats class is detailed at the side of this letter. As you can see our days are busy!

Meerkat's have a music lesson with Mrs Chilver every week. The children also enjoy weekly PE lessons. Meerkat's have Forest School every Friday afternoon all year round as we head back towards winter please make sure they have weather appropriate clothes that are okay to get muddy (such as waterproof jackets and trousers or puddle jumper suits, warm layers including old T shirts and jumpers, wellies and a change of socks) it's much more fun outside when we are all warm enough. Please remember to label all clothes.

Open Afternoon

Tuesday 3rd November is our Open Afternoon, our class is open to parents from 2:30pm - you are very welcome to come and see your child's work and explore resources in the classroom with them.

Enrichment homework is displayed in the hall from the end of school until 6pm and we'd love for Meerkat's class to be able to showcase some of their talents through Enrichment Homework.

Our focus for this half term is **Colour and Light** - thinking about light sources such as torches and the sun, colours in nature like tree leaves, rainbows and fruits/vegetables, shadows and shadow puppets, art and colour mixing.

If you and your child would like to complete an activity at home to showcase in the hall, you could choose from **one of the following**.

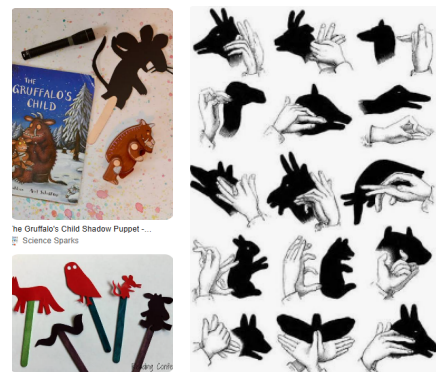
Soft landing/Zones check in
Welcome/register
Collective worship
Movement break
Lesson input - English/Core word
Activities then choosing
Snack
Playtime
Singing Hands Song
Input - TOPIC
Work then choosing
Movement
Phonics
Lunchtime
Song choice/register
Attention Bucket
Movement
Input - MATHS
Work then choosing
Targeting intervention
Snack and story



A selection of colour and light ideas:

My Communication

Shadow puppet - story telling/ theatre. Have fun making shadow shapes, objects or characters - can you make up a story or watch your adults tell a story.



My Thinking and Problem Solving

Colour Splat & Mix: Can you mix colours - what does yellow and blue make ? how did it feel. You could use a shallow tray or zip-lock bag filled with shaving foam or hair gel. Add a few drops of blue and yellow food colouring or paints. Then press, squish, and track the colours to see them merge into green. Did you check out any other colour combos? Can you share your experiment with us?

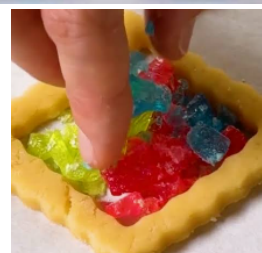
Fizzy Colour Eruptions (Cause and Effect) can you make coloured eruptions? Add food dye, bicarb and vinegar then wait for the coloured bubbles. Which was your favourite ?



My Independence

Coloured Water Pouring: Can you pour a perfect cup ? Fill a small plastic jug with coloured water (using food colouring)- practice the skill of pouring, explore volume practically by using cups of different sizes, build fine motor and hand-eye coordination.- We'd love to see your photos!

Stained-Glass Window or brightly iced Biscuits - Baking together - crush brightly coloured boiled sweets. They help press a hole into the centre of biscuit dough, drop the sweet pieces inside, and watch through the oven door as the heat melts the sweets into a see-through "glass" window or decorate biscuits with your favourite colours !





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Physical & Sensory Motor Development

Shining a light: Get moving with a night time adventure- will you visit your garden or go for a walk, light up the dark and follow the torch- shine it around to light up the darkness and can you see any other lights- the moon, the street lamps.

Light and Dark Box: Can you make a cosy den? Create a cosy space under a table with a blanket draped over it, or with boxes, or even sofa cushions. Add glowing sensory items like glow sticks, a sensory light-up toys, fairy lights or make gaps in the den to let the light in like little windows - enjoy the space together

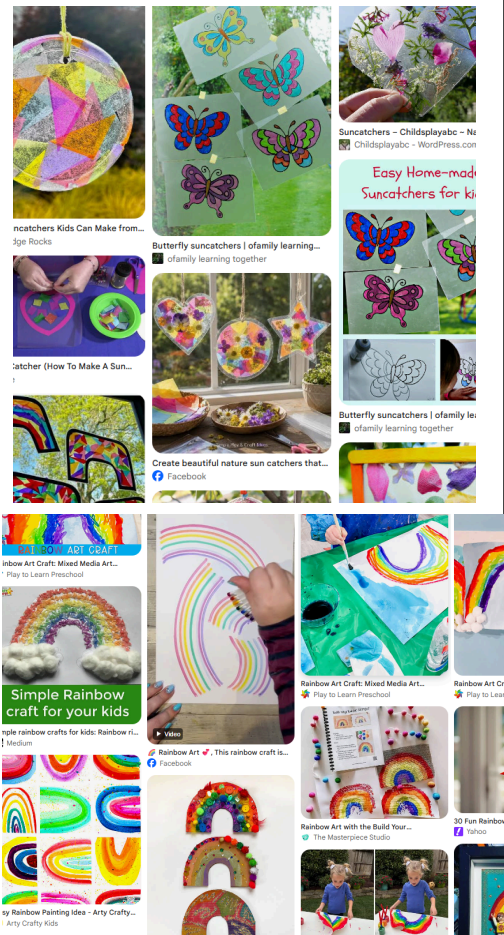


My Art

Sunlight Catchers: Can you make a colourful display for your window. Use cellophane or transparent plastic polly pockets- then stick on tissue paper, petals or other brightly coloured materials - did you make a pattern?

DIY Shadow Dance: stand in front of the wall, with the light coming from behind and create shadows on the wall - move your arm and legs and throw some shapes!

Make a rainbow - Using any materials can you make a beautiful rainbow? How many colours are there in your rainbow? Do rainbows have a special colour order? What order will you paint yours?



These are only a guide and are not compulsory and if there's anything else you'd like to share, please do!

Please bring in any contributions on Tuesday 3rd November.



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Tapestry

Speaking of sharing, next week we will begin sharing on Tapestry so you can enjoy seeing some of the positives that happen during the school day.

We would love to use it as a two way sharing tool and strongly encourage you to add photos from home on there too - it would enable us to get to know the children better and hopefully tap into their interests.

Any problems, questions or queries, please do not hesitate to get in contact using the following email address:

meerkats@allsaintsprimaryschoolmaldon.co.uk

Mrs Markham and the Meerkats staff team