

Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter - Spring 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you have had a super Christmas break. It's lovely to be back at school and to see everyone again. I am really looking forward to what is set to be a very busy and interesting term. I am delighted with the progress the children made last term and am confident your child will continue to make super progress this term. Thank you for supporting your child with their daily reading and weekly homework and for encouraging them to use the personalised readingeggs and mathematics websites.

English

As you are already aware, the English curriculum places high emphasis on how the enjoyment of reading is vital in developing children's reading skills. The children worked really hard last term and were very proud to continue to move up the reading stages. The expectation is that they will be reading stage 11 books or higher at the end of year 2. Please continue to share a book with your child **every night** - read the words and then discuss what the book is about. Daily home reading makes a huge difference to the progress your child makes in all areas of the curriculum. The Oxford Reading Owl website (www.oxfordreadingowl.co.uk) has 250 free ebooks that are all tablet friendly. I look forward to seeing their book character costumes on our dressing up day **6.3.20**.

Work on grammar, punctuation and spelling is a very important part of the English curriculum and the expected level of spelling is very high. **Spelling sheets** will continue to form part of the children's homework (sent home with homework on a **Friday** for a spelling test the following **Friday**). Reminding children to form letters neatly and accurately when they are doing homework would be really helpful. The expectation is that by the end of year 2 children will be using neat, joined up handwriting.

Maths

The demands of the maths curriculum mean that secure counting skills (forwards and backwards in 2's, 3's, 5's and 10's), quick recall of number facts (pairs of numbers up to 20 e.g. $7+5=12$, $12-7=5$, $8+7=15$, $15-8=7$) and a secure knowledge of the 2, 5 and 10 times tables are essential. This will continue form part of the children's homework. We will be learning to read and write numbers to 100 in words and numbers (e.g. 26 - twenty six, 42 - forty two), use different coins to make the same amount (e.g. 50p can be made with $5 \times 10p$ or $2 \times 20p + 1 \times 10p$ or $4 \times 10p + 2 \times 5p$ etc) and read the time to the nearest 5 minutes so any support you can give your child with these areas would be brilliant.

PLEASE REMIND CHILDREN THAT [HOMEWORK IS HANDED IN ON A THURSDAY NOT FRIDAY](#).

To begin the new term, we will be learning about animals, how they get their food and simple food chains. To provide a 'hands on' experience, I have booked an exciting visit from Zoolab on Friday 24th January. Later in the term, we will be learning about plants, how they grow and how they are suited to their environment. Our History topic for the term is entitled *The Greatest Explorers* and we going on a trip to Captain Cook Birth Place Museum later in the term. In R.E. we will be learning about the Bible and the Easter story. We will also be learning about Islam, the impact of beliefs, key festivals and famous Muslims. In PHSE we will be learning about honesty, respect, responsibility, community, families and friendships.

[P.E.](#) will be on [Wednesdays and Fridays](#). It is a good idea to send in PE kit and leave it in school until half term to avoid children forgetting their kit. Could you please ensure that children with pierced ears only wear studs for health and safety reasons.

If your child requires an Epi-pen or inhaler, could you please ensure one is available in school.

I look forward to seeing you at [open evening](#) on [26.3.20](#) but, in the meantime, if you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. I am always in the playground after school for quick questions or we can always arrange an appointment for anything that needs a longer chat.

Please note that due to Government legislation leave will not be granted for holidays unless there are extenuating circumstances. [Please remember that Y2 children will be completing their end of key stage assessments throughout the month of May.](#)

By working together we can ensure that children approach new challenges with confidence and achieve success.

Your continued interest and support is greatly appreciated.

Mr Goldsbrough
Year 2 Class Teacher