

Fenby Avenue  
Lascelles Park  
DARLINGTON  
DL1 4UB  
Tel: 01325 380725  
admin@stjohnsceaacademy.co.uk

## Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter – Spring 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you have had a relaxing 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 that your child will continue to make super progress this term. Thank you for supporting your child with their Little Wandle reading, spellings and weekly Mathletics homework.

### Homework

Your continued support with your child's learning makes such a big difference to the progress they make. Homework includes home reading each week with both the library book and their Little Wandle book; one spelling task and three Mathletics tasks (set on a Friday afternoon and reviewed after 6pm on a Thursday).

### Reading

Home reading makes a huge difference to the progress your child makes in all areas of the curriculum. Your child will continue bring a library book home on a Monday for you to share with them - please return this on a Friday. In addition to this, your child will continue to read their Little Wandle reading book to the teacher three times each week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and then bring the same book home to read to you on a Friday. Please read the book multiple times over the weekend and return it to school every Monday. As a class, we will be reading *The Glass Cupboard* by Terry Jones, and *The Papaya that Spoke* by Pie Corbett. We will also have a focus on poems, including 'Who Has Seen the Wind' by Christina Rossetti and *Ning, Nang, Nong* by Spike Milligan. World Book Day is 02.03.23 but we will be dressing up on Friday 03.03.23.

### Handwriting

Using consistent, neat handwriting is extremely important. The expectation is that your child will be using joined up handwriting by the end of Year 2 and they will have a daily handwriting session in class. A copy of our letter formations and joins can be found on our school website.

### Writing

We will be learning about different word classes (noun, adjective, verb, adverb) and different sentence types (statements, questions, commands). We will also be learning how to use full stops, question marks and exclamation marks appropriately and when to use subordinating conjunctions (because, when, if, that). As the term progresses, we will write for different purposes, including non-chronological reports on Captain James Cook; instructions on how to make a money purse and poetry focussing on rhymes. We will



continue to encourage the children to draw upon their reading experiences and widen their vocabulary use.

### Spelling

In Year 2, we have 56 common exception words that your child are expected to learn to read and spell – these can be found in your child’s Learning Journal. **The weekly spelling test in class will be on Friday.**

### Maths

As the term progresses, we will be learning to multiply and divide within the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We will also be making totals using different coins and recognising properties on 2D and 3D shapes. The school continues to use White Rose Maths resources to embed problem solving opportunities into our daily maths lessons. **To complement their work in school, your child has access to the Numbots programme and they will be assigned three Mathletics tasks each week to complete at home.**

### Science

Our focus is on habitats, food chains and how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. The children will learn that plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.

### PHSE

We will learn about living in the wider world and belonging to a community.

### R.E

The children will be learning about two faiths. Firstly, we will focus on Islam and discuss who is Muslim and what they believe. After half term, we will look at Easter and why it is an important Christian festival.

### History

This term, Year 2 are learning about explorers. As a historical figure from the North East, we will focus on Captain James Cook.

### Geography

We will be learning about seasons and linking this to our science work on plants. This will include some exciting work in the school allotment.

### Art

Our focus this term is on painting. We will be using a range of brush sizes and styles as well as mixing, refining and applying more sophisticated colours. We will study natural forms in the world around us and use these to influence our artwork as we to apply tone to create form.

### Music

Using resources from the Durham Music Service, we will be learning to explore our feelings through music and invent a musical story.

### P.E.

**These lessons take place on Monday and Friday.** Firstly, we will be learning about sending and receiving



objects and later in the term, the children will take part in dance lessons. The children need a PE kit of shorts, t-shirt and plimsolls. Thank you to all the parents who have named their child's kit. Your child's kit should stay in school until half term and then be sent home.

**IMPORTANT - Due to changes in health and safety guidance, we can no longer allow children to wear any form of earring during PE lessons. Please ensure that, if your child wears earrings, they are able to take them out independently or they may not wear earrings on PE days.**

### Parents' Evening

This will take place on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. We will issue more details about this nearer the time.

I am confident that we will have another very successful term, working together, to ensure your child achieves their full potential. Remember, if at any time you have a question or concern, please do not hesitate to catch me on the playground.

Kind Regards,

Mr Goldsbrough.

