



10th January 2020

Year 2 Spring Term 2020

Dear Y2 Parents/Carers

We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas break. Thank you for all of the cards, presents and good wishes we received before Christmas.

Teachers

English will continue to be led by Mrs McIlhagga and maths will be led by Mrs Hewitson. Phonics lessons have resumed this week and all of the children should now know which group they are in and who is leading their group.

PE (1st and 2nd half terms) is still on a Wednesday and Forest School (1st half term only) is on a Thursday, starting on Thursday 16th January. Please make sure long hair is tied back and earrings are removed every Wednesday and Thursday, and that the children have welly boots or old trainers in school on a Thursday during this half-term.

Key Stage One SATs

As you know, this May all Year 2 children take part in national Key Stage One tests, known as SATs. We would like to invite you to attend the following meeting, where we will be sharing more information about the tests.

KS1 SATs Meeting for Y2 parents on Wednesday 22nd January at 3:45pm

Subjects

English

The class will continue to practise their handwriting each day and learn about spelling and grammar rules. The class will all be starting to join-up this half term. Please encourage them to practise their handwriting at home. Please also hear your child read a little every day, it has been shown to make a big difference to children's progress.

This half-term, we are reading Fantastic Mr Fox, which will link with our work on animals and their habitats.

In our topic work we have been learning about continents, oceans, compass points and different animals and we will continue to study this fascinating topic in Science. We will be using all of the information we learn to write interesting explanation texts of our own. We will continue to learn about tenses (past and present), word classes (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs), compound words [car + park = carpark], conjunctions [or, and, but] and subordination [when, if, that,

Love

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because]. We will continue to learn about the correct use of apostrophes, commas, noun phrases and suffixes.

Next half-term, we will be reading Ottoline and the Yellow Cat, and learning how to write a letter.

Maths

Please see the separate letter inviting you to attend:

Y2 Maths Workshop on Monday 27th January 2:15pm – 3:15pm

This term, we will be continuing working on our understanding of multiplication and division. The children will all be working on learning their 2, 5 and 10 times tables off by heart.

We will start learning about fractions, working on recognising halves, quarters and thirds. We will read measurements from rulers, weighing scales and measuring jugs, using the symbols cm, m, g, kg, ml and l.

We will learn the names of common 3D shapes and describe their properties, using the vocabulary: faces, edges and vertices.

We will also be learning about money. It would be really helpful if you could show your child coins and notes and let them become really familiar with them. Perhaps you could help them to practice making different amounts of money with the coins? For example, with a selection of coins, how could you make 20p? Please remember that we mostly work within 100, so don't expect them to be confident over £1 just yet.

Topic

Our Geography topic this half-term is 'Where Do Animals Come From?' We have been learning about the continents and oceans and different animals and their habitats. We have been learning about compass points and learned the mnemonics Never Eat Shredded Wheat and Naughty Elephants Squirt Water! We will continue to study animal habitats in Science and look forward to learning more about some special guests and their native habitats on 23rd January.

Next half-term, we will be learning about our second RE topic: Christianity – The Easter Story.

PSHE

This half-term, our school theme is: Keeping Myself Safe. We will be discussing secrets, appropriate/inappropriate touch and reading the book: 'Some secrets should never be kept' by Jayneen Sanders. We will also learn about the NSPCC Underwear Rule. If you would like to view the book, please speak to Mrs Hewitson.

During the second half-term, we will be thinking about: Rights and Responsibilities. This will include learning about how to get help (including calling 999), and what we can do to try to keep ourselves calm when we get angry.



Science

This half-term the class will be focusing on the topic: Habitats. To support our work, we have arranged for a visitor from Axe Valley Wildlife Park to attend school on Thursday 23rd January (please see separate letter).

During the second half-term, the class will continue to learn about Animals.

Homework in Year 2

MATHS Games will come home on a Thursday and should be returned by the following Wednesday. Please record in their small maths game book, so we know that the game has been played.

After the Maths workshop later this month, weekly maths homework sheets will start to come home.

SPELLINGS will come home weekly. Please practise each day for the whole week and swap a few older ones in when they have learned some. At the end of each week see how many they can remember from all the spellings they've practised so far. The spellings will be linked to their phonics group and will be a mixture of spelling linked to a spelling rule and common exception words that Year 2 children should know. Please help your children to learn them. Although the spellings are taught in school, children need to practise many times before they remember to use them in their own writing.

READING RECORDS may be checked on any day, so please do ensure that they are brought to school every day. Please sign and comment in your child's Reading Record book every time they have read to you at home, or you have shared a book together. This could also include reading an e-book on the Oxford Owl website: www.oxfordowl.co.uk username/password: tatworth2

In addition to your child's reading book, they may also bring home a paper copy of a book that they have been practising during their Phonics lesson. Please make time to allow your child to read this book back to you and let them 'be the teacher' so they can enjoy sharing what they have been learning in class. All children also have a picture book for you to share and enjoy at home, which they can change on any day.

If your child is on the Accelerated Reader scheme, they must score 100% on a quiz about the book before they can move onto the next level. So, it is beneficial for children to read a book twice and be asked questions about the book at home, to ensure that they have fully understood the story before they attempt the quiz.

Snacks and Drinks

The children will all be offered a piece of school fruit during first break. You may wish to send your child to school with a healthy snack for second break (fruit, vegetables, small sandwich) – if so, please ensure it is in a labelled, reusable box where possible.

Please may we remind you that all children must bring a drink to school every day. Please send water only, in a named drinks bottle.



Coats

Please ensure that your child has a coat in school every day.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Hewitson and Mrs McIlhagga

