

Year 2 Summer Term 2022

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you have all had an enjoyable Easter break and been able to make the most of the lovely sunshine. I am glad that we are able to spend more of our playtimes on the field and the play trail this term, and I know many of the children will be excited to get onto the field more regularly.

When I look back to September, I am impressed and amazed by the progress the children have made in their learning and confidence; furthermore, they continue to impress me with their mature attitudes and their kindness. We have been delighted to welcome Aidan into our class, and everyone has contributed to helping him to settle in and to feel part of our team.

We have got another busy and enjoyable term coming up. I am hopeful that we can rearrange our visit to the Swiss Tulle factory and have been in contact with them.

Key Stage 1 SATs (Standardised Assessment Tests) will take place this month. We will ensure that these are administered in a low-stress, low-key way so that the children should not feel that they are anything out of the ordinary. The children will sit two maths papers: an arithmetic paper and a reasoning paper. These are not strictly timed, so children will not be rushed or pressured to finish, but they take around 20-35 minutes. There are two reading papers that will also take about half an hour, a 20-word spelling test and a grammar and punctuation test of around 20 minutes.

These will be administered over several days and children will be given plenty of breaks during and after the tests. The children's end of year result will be based on teacher assessment alongside the test results, and will be shared in the end-of-term reports.

Please contact me if you would like any further information about the tests.

PE

Year 2 will continue to have PE on Tuesday with Mrs Churchill and will now have it on a Wednesday with Mr Bulbeck. I will continue to send PE kits home on a Thursday.

English

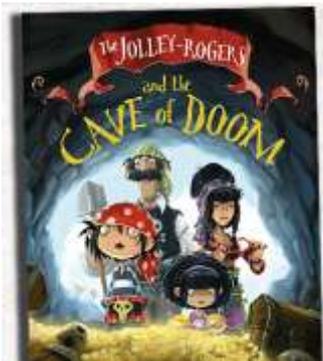
Children will continue to access a **daily phonics session** lasting an hour, in which they practise reading, spelling and writing. They will bring home their phonics reading book from class as well as a matched book bag book. A few children have now moved on from the phonics scheme and during that hour are working on a **comprehension** programme with Mrs Mitcham in which they will be tackling longer, more challenging texts. These children will bring home a reader from the library at their appropriate Accelerated Reader level.

Whether your child is doing phonics or comprehension, please support them to record their reading at least **five times a week**. It is helpful for me to be aware of how they are getting on with the books they have at home, so please do write a little message in their reading record to let me know. For example:

- *Child struggled to read the word 'because.'*
- *I was really impressed that child knew how to read 'imagination.'*
- *Child persevered with tricky words.*
- *Child was reluctant to read so I read to them instead today.*
- *I loved child's storyteller's voice.*
- *Child read the words accurately but was very slow.*

I also love to hear about the books that you are sharing at home so that I can chat about them with the children.

I will change Book Bag books on **Monday and Thursday**, and children on Accelerated Reader can change their book once they have quizzed on the previous one; it is best with shorter books if they read them twice.



We will soon be finishing *The Mousehole Cat*; the children have really engaged with this story, which has some rich vocabulary that they have been using themselves. We have also enjoyed some simple drama activities based around the text, thinking about stormy seas and cats chasing mice! We will then be moving on to *The Jolly-Rogers and the Cave of Doom* by Jonny Duddle. It was wonderful last term that so many of you and your children read other Roald Dahl books alongside our class reader *Fantastic Mr Fox*. If you wish to deepen your child's experience of our next class reader, you can find out lots about the author here on his engaging website: www.jonny-duddle.com *The Pirates Next Door* is a fantastic picture book that introduces some of the characters from our class reader. Don't be surprised if your child comes home talking in pirate language!

Please also encourage and support your children in using Spelling Frame to practise their spellings, which are targeted for them.

Maths

This term, we will learn about and practise:

- **Fractions** (the children have made an excellent start to this already) - recognising a half, a quarter and a third and seeing the equivalence of a half and two quarters
- **Time** - we have already worked on o'clock and half past, so we will be learning quarter past and quarter to, as well as telling the time to five minutes. We will work on hours and days and finding and comparing durations of time.
- **Length and Height** - measuring in centimetres and metres and comparing and ordering lengths
- **Position and Direction** - describing position, movement and turns, and learning the language of position and direction
- **Mass, Capacity and Temperature** - measuring and comparing mass in grams and kilograms and measuring and comparing volume in litres and millilitres.

We will also continue to revisit and consolidate our understanding of place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

The children will soon be receiving their maths homework books with guidance on how and when to complete them.

Science

In science this term, we are starting with a focus on animals, including humans, and looking at life cycles and offspring. We will be looking into the importance of exercise and a healthy diet for humans. We will also be revisiting our work on habitats and materials.

Finally, we will be starting to explore the idea of forces by investigating push and pull forces.

History, Geography and RE

This half-term we will be learning about Australia. Children will be using what they have already learnt in geography about continents and the UK to help them to compare and contrast Australia with Europe and the UK. We will be finding out about the location of Australia, as well as important physical and human features of Australia. We will link with our science work by discovering some animals of Australia and their habitats.

Later this term, in history, we will be learning about explorers in the past, including Christopher Columbus and Captain Cook. We will consider different viewpoints about the impact these explorers had, and think about some lesser known explorers and why we might not have as many sources to learn about them.

In RE, we will be learning about what Christians believe about love and how this would shape their values.

Music, DT and Art

In music lessons this term, we will be learning about the timbre of different instruments and beginning to explore musical notation. In DT, we are thinking about food and nutrition and will be

tasting and creating healthy vegetarian *couscous* dishes. We may need some tasters so be ready!

Next half-term, in art, we are exploring *architecture*, and then building on our history work from last term with some *fossil* art.

PSHE

Our topic for the first half-term is *Being my Best*, and we will think about ways of setting and working towards goals, and how we can handle disappointment, frustration and challenge. We will also think about how to keep physically healthy and how our physical health contributes to feeling our best: this will be supported in DT through our work on nutrition and in science through our work on what humans need.

We will then move on to *Growing and Changing*. We will think about what change means and how it can make us feel. We will explore how we have grown and continue to grow, and will learn about *privacy* and which body parts should be kept private.

Please always feel free to contact me if you have any questions, concerns or general comments about any aspect of your child's learning or time at school. No question is a silly question, and I will appreciate your interest. Have a lovely term.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Whiffin