

Year 2 Summer Term 2023

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you have all had an enjoyable Easter break and been able to make the most of some warmer weather. Hopefully, this will mean we will be able to spend more of our playtimes on the field and the play trail this term - I know many of the children are looking forward to this!

We have got another busy and enjoyable term coming up. We have already enjoyed a trip to the theatre to watch Zog. It was a fantastic performance and lovely to see the children getting involved! Later this term, to consolidate our learning on Mary Anning, we have arranged a trip to Lyme Regis next week, on Friday 28th April, to take part in their annual Fossil Festival. Please see letter sent home today.

Key Stage 1 SATs (Standardised Assessment Tests) will take place this month, in the week beginning 15th May 2023. 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. They 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 do get in touch if you would like any further information about the tests.

PE

Year 2 will continue to have PE on Tuesdays and Wednesdays with either Mr Bailey or Mrs Churchill. PE kits will continue to come home at the end of the week.

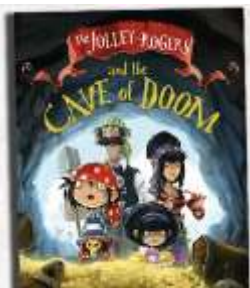
English

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, which they should read at least twice, as well as a matched book bag book. Some children have now moved on from the phonics scheme and during that hour are working on a *comprehension* programme in which they tackle longer, more challenging texts. These children will bring home an appropriately levelled reading book from the library.

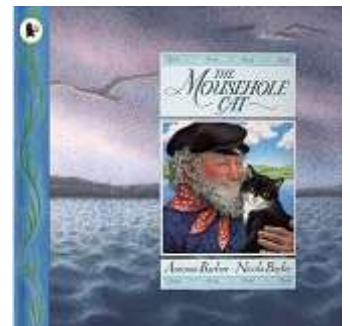
Whether your child is doing phonics or comprehension, please do continue support them by listening to them read, talking about their reading and sharing other books together. All of these activities can be recorded in their reading records, at least *five times a week*. It is helpful for us to be aware 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.*

It also love to hear about the books that you are sharing at home so that we can chat about them in school.



We will soon be finishing *The Jolley-Rogers and the Cave of Doom* by Jonny Duddle. The children have really enjoyed this story, and have even had a go at writing their own pirate stories! There are several other books in the series and I know some of the children have already started to explore these!



Our next book will be *The Mousehole Cat*, an exciting story from our class reader, a dramatic and moving Cornish tale of a cat and a fisherman who brave the stormy seas to save their village.

The children will be bringing home new spelling bookmarks soon - please encourage them to practise these either on spelling frame or in the exercises books they brought home for this.

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.
- **Position and Direction** - describing position, movement and turns, and learning the language of position and direction

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

Maths homework books will continue to be sent home on a Friday and should be returned to school by the following Thursday.

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 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.

In history this term, 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

This week, we have been building our wind powered cars, ready for the Beech Class races next week! Later in the term 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!

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

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.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Webb