

Year 2 Newsletter

Summer Term 2017

We hope that the following information about the curriculum and routines will help both to inform you and support us to achieve our objectives for all children.

English

The first half of the summer term will have a strong grammar, punctuation and spelling focus. The children will be writing for different purposes and thinking carefully about applying their skills in different contexts. We will be writing recounts, reports, stories, letters and lists. We will be investigating which suffixes we can add to words and trying to use these in our writing. We will continue to explore alternative ways to spell phonemes and how to choose the correct spelling by looking at common letter strings. The second half of term we will be taking a project based approach to our English lessons. We will continue to consolidate our writing skills in imaginative, creative and cross-curricular ways. Throughout the term children will continue to develop their comprehension skills. They will explore ways to answer different types of questions and how to write their answers making references to the text they are reading.

Maths

In Maths the children will be continuing to develop their calculation skills. We will be encouraging the children to develop their mental calculation strategies and how to answer questions without using apparatus. The children will revise how to draw tens and units, blank number lines and sections of hundred squares to solve problems using their preferred method of working out a problem. They will then learn to apply these in a context. We will focus on a range of areas in mathematics covering measures, in particular looking at thermometers, weighing scales and measuring jugs. We will continue to look at time particularly matching digital and analogue time and reading the clock to five minute intervals. We will be looking at fractions of numbers and shapes and how to order these from smallest to largest. Children will continue to regularly practise the table facts for the 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 times tables and related division facts. It would be helpful to practise these with your child at home.



Science

This term's topic will focus on Plants & Habitats. In the first part of the term, children will be given the opportunity to observe and investigate variations of plants and will develop their investigative skills. When looking at habitats in the second half of the term, children will be learning about how animals are adapted for different environments. This will link with our Geography topic on Kenya.



Other Subjects

In **Music**, children will be focusing on exploring instruments and symbols. They will identify and control a variety of sounds using musical instruments with confidence; perform with others; and take account of musical instructions.

Our **Topic** this term is The Great Fire of London in which the children will explore how the fire started, how it spread and the consequences of the fire. In the second half of the term we will be looking at Kenya. We will be finding out about the geographical features, animals, food, schooling and culture of a locality overseas.

In **R.E** during the first half of term children will learn about Parables, the messages we can learn from them and how they relate to our lives. In the second half of term children will be looking at Christian baptism and marriage.

Our **Art** topic in the first half term we will be Mother Nature, where we will be looking at artists who were inspired by nature. In the second half of this term our **D&T** topic will focussing upon the children designing and making a small vehicle.

There will be two outdoor **P.E** sessions a week. Our sessions will include batting and fielding skills, athletics and cheer-leading. Children require appropriate kit for P.E lessons—shorts, house t-shirt and gym shoes or trainers. Please can you make sure all P.E kit is clearly labelled with your child's name and that your children's clothing and shoes still fit!



Additional Information

As you know in the latter part of this half term the children will be completing their SATs tasks. We keep these very low key as they are similar to our usual classroom activities. We would appreciate your support in maintaining the low profile of these tasks. To keep the tasks as relaxed as possible, we spread them over a four week period. Please ensure that from Tuesday 2nd May until half term, any dental or medical appointments are made outside of school hours as it is important your child completes these tasks with their classmates.



Please ensure your child's book bag and diary are in on their diary day, however, the children can change their book whenever they have finished it. Spelling investigations and maths homework will continue to be sent home on a weekly basis. Please make sure that your child brings in their spelling books and homework on a **Tuesday**.

We would very much appreciate it if your child could bring a quality glue stick to school; we get through a high quantity due to the amount of creative work we do in the classroom. Boxes of tissues would also be gratefully received. As the warmer months approach, please could you make sure that your child has a named water bottle in school and that all jumpers have clear name labels as some handwritten names are starting to fade.

Thank you for your support, we look forward to another successful and happy term.

Mrs Hunt, Miss Tucker and Miss Terry