



Year 2 Spring Term Newsletter



We hope that you had a fantastic Christmas! Happy New Year from all of us in Year 2. We are thoroughly looking forward to another successful term in Year 2 and it has been wonderful to see such happy, smart and enthusiastic children returning to school.

Autumn Term Review

Year 2 had an extremely productive and successful autumn term. The children have made super progress! We have seen great focus and determination in their daily Maths lessons and the children have developed their understanding of place value, addition, subtraction and shape. In English, our lessons have focused on the books *I don't like books, never, ever!*, *The Disgusting Sandwich*, *A Star in the Forest*, *Toby and the Great Fire* and our Christmas-themed book, *How to Catch Santa*. In addition to all their hard work in English and Maths, we have learnt a lot about the Great Fire of London in History and continents of the world in Geography. We have also enjoyed creating colourful collages in Art and cheerful puppets in DT. The children also staged an amazing performance of 'Hey Ewe' in the last week of term. We were so proud of their fantastic performance and really hope you enjoyed the show!



Our Spring Term Curriculum

We will continue to follow a two-week timetable for our foundation subjects along with daily Maths, English, Phonics, Memory Maths and reading sessions.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Description</u>
History <i>The Titanic</i>	As historians, children will learn what made the Titanic so special, what life was like on board and why people wanted to sail on it. They will piece together a timeline of events, investigating class systems and the different experiences people on the Titanic had. Children will learn about the survivors and the changes made since the disaster.
Geography <i>Weather</i>	As geographers, children will compare the weather and culture of the UK with Haiti. They will compare the difference in seasons, weather and climate as each destination moves further away from the equator. The children will learn about extreme weather events and their increased likelihood nearer to the equator.
Science <i>Living things and their habitats.</i>	As scientists, the children will compare the differences between things that are living, dead and things that have never been alive. They will identify how living things depend on each other. They will explore life processes, features of habitats and adaptations and then look at the fragility of habitats.
Art <i>The work of Giuseppe Arcimboldo</i>	As artists, the children will study the work Giuseppe Arcimboldo who was an Italian painter best known for creating imaginative portrait heads made entirely of objects such as fruits, vegetables, flowers, fish and books. The children will copy parts of his images using the techniques of dotting, hatching, scribbling and adding lines for additional detail.
DT <i>Wheels and Axles.</i>	As technologists, we will be designing and building a vehicle to transport water over long distances. Children will explore the different components of a vehicle with an emphasis on wheels and axles. They will be given the opportunity to practise making a variety of wheels and axles considering efficiency and suitability throughout. The children will then design and make a vehicle that can be used to transport their water bottle.
Computing <i>Robot algorithms.</i>	As digital creators, the children will develop their understanding of instructions in sequences and the use of logical reasoning to predict outcomes. Children will use given commands in different orders to investigate how the order affects the outcome. Children will learn about design in programming, develop artwork and design and test algorithms.
Music <i>The Instruments of the Orchestra</i>	As musicians, the children will learn about the instruments of the orchestra, identifying these within a piece of music. They will learn how different characters can be represented by timbre, how emotions can be represented by pitch and how changes in tempo can convey action. They then focus on the story The Snow Queen and analyse how music can convey different moods or aspects of the narrative.
PE <i>Sending and receiving invasion games and Striking and Fielding.</i>	As sportspeople, the children will develop their sending and receiving skills including throwing, catching, rolling, kicking, tracking and stopping a ball. They will use equipment to send and receive different sized balls. Children will learn how to play against an opponent and be able to hit a ball over a net.
My Life <i>Healthy Minds</i>	In My Life lessons, the children will learn about mental well-being, emotions and how screen time and sleep can affect these.
RE <i>Faith Communities Easter</i>	As theologians, the children will explore what it means to belong to a faith community and why does Easter matter to Christians.

Teachers and Teaching Assistants

Just a reminder of the teaching staff in Year 2. We will be joined by trainee Mr Mytton for the Spring Term. He will be based in 2P.

2H		2P	
Teacher	Mr Hopes	Teachers	Mrs Pates (M, T, W) Mrs Bidwell (Th, F)
Teaching Assistant	Mrs Clewitt	Teaching Assistants	Mrs Waldron Miss Reid
Student Teacher			Mr Mytton

Reading

The children will continue to be provided with a choose book (the one with the coloured band) and either a phonic eBook or an accelerated reading text. Please ensure these books are read at home through the week.

Please read with your child each day and record this reading in your child's Reading and Homework Diary. Throughout the year, sponsored reads and reading challenges will take place so please check book bags, Seesaw and diaries for letters and further details. *Daily reading at home is essential to your child's progression. We understand that family life can be very busy but please remember to read with your child every day!*



Please ensure that your child's Reading and Homework Diary is always in their book bag every day.

Library books

Your child will also be given the opportunity to choose a book from the library on a **Monday**. This will be of their own choosing, and they may need help to read it! These books are distinguishable by the barcode stuck on the inside of the front cover.



Spellings

We will continue to hand out spellings on a Wednesday to be learnt for a Spelling Quiz the following Wednesday. The words will be sent home as an activity on Seesaw.



Seesaw

In Year 2, we frequently use Seesaw for messages, reminders, homework, spellings, help videos and information about what we have been up to in school so please ensure you check it regularly. If you would like to contact your class teacher, please ensure you use the message function rather than posting a comment in your child's journal. This means that we are alerted and can respond to you through a personal message that will not appear in your child's journal.

Homework

The children will continue to receive homework each week via an activity on Seesaw. It would be hugely beneficial if you discuss this work with your child and support if necessary. Homework will be sent out on a **Friday** and expected to be completed by the following Friday.

P.E.

All children will have PE with Mr Hopes on a **Monday** and Mr Lindley on a **Tuesday**.

Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit, including trainers that fit and outdoor clothes for the colder weather. Please label all PE kits clearly. If your child has long hair, it should be tied up for safety reasons. Earrings should be removed before coming to school or your child will be asked to remove them before participating in the lesson. If this is not possible, please provide your child with medical tape to cover the earrings. Unless they are dirty or wet PE kits can be kept at school for a half term (your child can of course take them home if kit is needed for external clubs etc).



Parents' Evening: Parents' Evening appointments will be held Monday 5th February, Tuesday 6th February and Thursday 8th February. More information to follow from the school office.

Pencil Cases: The children are welcome to bring in a pencil, a rubber, a pencil sharpener, colouring pencils and a glue stick in a named pencil case if they wish. Please only provide essential stationary to avoid distractions!

School Lunches: Parents/carers need to book and pay for school lunches on ParentPay by midnight on Tuesday for the following week. Please see the office if you need any help with ParentPay.

We look forward to having a fantastic spring term!
Mr Hopes, Mrs Pates and Mrs Bidwell