

Year 2 Spring Term Newsletter

We hope that you had a fantastic Christmas. We would like to wish you a Happy New Year! We are thoroughly looking forward to another successful term in Year 2 and it was 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. In addition to all of their hard work in Maths, we have thoroughly enjoyed the topics of The Great Fire of London, Scientists and Inventors, The Gunpowder Plot and Our World Around Us. We have also read fantastic texts including The Monster Machine and How to Catch Santa. A huge amount of learning has taken place using these events, topics and books throughout our curriculum.

The end of the Autumn Term brought the excitement of Christmas and a fantastic performance of this year's play, 'Hey Ewe'. The children sang, acted and danced like professionals! We really hope that you enjoyed the show.



Our own Great Fire.
(We did consult with
the fire service
beforehand!)

Curriculum:

The children have made fantastic progress in their daily Maths lessons. The specific skills of reading are taught in a number of smaller groups across Key Stage 1. This means that your child is taught at precisely the right level for their ability, that they experience success and enjoy their learning.

The writing, Science, History, Geography, Art, DT and RE objectives are taught through a series of topics, which will last for 2 to 3 weeks. Below is a table with details of the topics planned during the Spring Term (not in order).

<u>Topic Title</u>	<u>Description</u>
Living things	To find out about different plants and animals and their natural habitats. To discover how animals obtain food from other plants and animals, developing the idea of a simple food chain. To find out about the basic needs of animals and learning how animals have offspring which grow into adults. To find out about the importance for humans to exercise and eat the right amounts of food.

Animals in Africa	Comparing and contrasting the animals found in our locality to that of Kenya.
African Art	To learn and replicate the style of African art.
Super foods	To prepare healthy and varied dishes.
Awesome explorers	To explore different parts of the world and the lives of significant individuals who have contributed to national and international achievements.
LS Lowry	An art based topic recreating the style of this famous artist.
Marvellous Materials	A hands-on topic about the uses of everyday materials and comparing their suitability for different purposes.

Reading

Here is a reminder of the reading arrangements in Year 2.

Choose Books

The children are given the opportunity to change their 'Choose Book' most days. We promote independence in Year 2 and expect the children to do this themselves - if you notice your child has not changed their book please encourage them to do so.



Library books

Your child will also be given the opportunity to choose a book from our fantastic library on a **Wednesday**. Please encourage your child to look after their book and return it each week.

Guided Reading

Children will read with an adult in school at least once a week, either in a small group or on an individual basis. This book will be slightly more challenging than their 'Choose Book' and will sometimes (not always) be sent home to allow your child to demonstrate the reading completed at school.

Please remember to sign the homework diary when you have read with your child. The children do receive house points and chance cards for doing so.

Please ensure homework diaries are always in book bags.

Reading Challenge

We will be starting a reading challenge on **Monday 14th January 2019**. Look out for details in book bags and homework diaries.

Handwriting

This newsletter has been presented using the joined handwriting style that we are currently teaching the children. Our aim is for all of our children to develop this style as the year progresses. If you do any writing at home, please encourage your children to use this style of handwriting in their work.

General reminders

- All uniform and PE kit should be clearly labelled.
- The children are not required to bring any of their own equipment. All pencils, rubbers etc. will be provided.
- No toys are allowed in school. Items brought in for Show and Tell should be items of interest rather than toys.

Any donations?

The games and toys in our wet play cupboards are looking a little tatty. If you are having a clear out after Christmas, we would gratefully receive any of the following:

Board games

Puzzles

Lego

Colouring books

Stencils

Finally, thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. If you have any questions or queries regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mr Hopes and Mr Fletcher