

Year 2 Newsletter - Spring 1 - January 2023

Belonging Respect Responsibility



Welcome to Year 2 – Spring Term 1

Our topics this half term are '**Fire and Ice**.' Two firm favourites that the children have been looking forward to learning about, The Great Fire of London and The Titanic; we will be looking at the changes that we made after the disasters.

In **Reading**: We will continue looking at a range of texts to develop the children's reading skills in both fiction and non-fiction. Our focus this half term will initially be on non-fiction and retrieving information from the text and we will then move onto exploring in depth the features of fictional stories. Please continue to read at home using the learning objective sticker and sign your child's reading diary as every little helps!

In **Writing**: We will be writing diary entries and letters about both events. This will be followed by exploring the features of non-fiction before writing our own non-fiction reports. As always, our focus across all genres will be coherency and use of correct punctuation, spelling (particularly the Year 2 common exception words) and grammar.

In **Mathematics**: In the first two weeks back we will be learning about data handling and finding out how to collect and represent our own data. This will be followed by learning how to interpret different graphs and charts and using them to answer questions. Next, we will be learning about division and sharing, and linking this to our prior learning of multiplication and times table knowledge.

In **Science**: We will be exploring what changes happen to our school grounds and local environment during the winter months and how these changes can affect the plants and animals that live there. We will find out how materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. We will look at the properties of different materials and identify their suitability and performance for different tasks.

Geography: We will be recapping the 7 continents and 5 oceans of the world. We will start by looking at the importance of London as our capital and identifying some of its significant buildings found there in modern day. We will learn about the compass and cardinal directions. We will also continue our study of seasonal weather patterns by looking at the daily patterns over a week. We will also be learning the difference between human and physical features on maps.

Computing: We will be learning how to use programs to create a simple chart or graph. In coding, we will be learning how to create and debug our own algorithms using Purple Mash.

PE: We will be focusing on multi-skills, focusing on core games movements and game play. We will also be improving our skills of the basic balances and working with partners and in groups to develop our own gymnastic sequences using equipment.

History: We will focus on the events of the Titanic disaster and how this has affected our own locality, living by and sailing on the sea. We will also be learning about different ways of finding out about the past by asking and answering questions and deciding which sources are the best. We will find out how both of these historic events led to changes that make our lives safer today.

DT/Art: We will be making our own lifeboats and winches then evaluating how effective they are for the purpose. Any junk modelling resources would be very welcome.



Dates for your diary

January

Thursday 19th January
Special Menu Day (More info to follow)

February

Monday 6th February
Outdoor Learning Day
Thursday 9th February
Valentines Disco (more info to follow)
Friday, 10th February
INSET Day – School Closed
13th – 17th February
Half Term



Library Day

Our Library day is Wednesday. Please keep library books in book bags so they can be exchanged.



PE Days

Our PE days are now both indoors on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Please ensure long hair is tied back and earrings preferably removed on these days.

We encourage you to come and speak to any member of the team to share your concerns and joys. If you require a lengthier chat, please either email the school office or make a telephone appointment.

We hope your children have had a lovely break and are ready for another busy half term! Please continue supporting them by reading regularly, learning spellings and encouraging them to do the 'Have a Go' Homework that will be sent home occasionally.

How you can help your child at home:

Reading: Please encourage your child to read as many fairy tales as they can. They could also explore some non-fiction books and get used to using the features of these texts (eg. contents, glossary, index). Please continue to write comments in your child's reading diary.

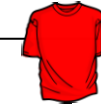
Spellings: Spellings will continue to be sent out weekly on Fridays. Please continue to support your child learning these at home, as this makes such a difference.

Visit: Why not take a trip to Southampton to visit the Titanic museum. It is well worth the visit.



Water Bottle

Please ensure your child has a named water bottle in school. To help the environment, we will not provide plastic cups.



Belongings

Please ensure your child's name is on all of their clothing, lunch boxes and PE sweatshirts. We already have items of unnamed clothing that have gone missing or are unclaimed. These are disposed of at the end of the half term.

Outdoor Learning Day



Monday, 6th February -

Children should dress in warm outdoor casual bottoms (top half usual uniform) with wellies or trainers depending upon the forecast. Gloves and hats may be advisable too.

It will be cancelled if it is raining.

Urgent Plea for Recycled Materials

Please bring in **clean food trays and small cardboard boxes** that can be used for our DT project. Yoghurt pots make great glue pots.

The children will need something that they can turn into a lifeboat to attach to their winch mechanism. We also need old shoe boxes. Even if you can provide just one for your child that will be a big help.

We can always use old bits of **fabric, beads and buttons**. It is amazing how creative children can be with your junk! There is a box outside Year 2.