

Year 2 Summer Term!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back!

I do hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing Easter holidays. I am looking forward to a term full of new learning experiences for your children. We are lucky to have Mr Stanway, an associate teacher, working in Year 2 until half term. This term is a very busy one with the end of Key Stage 1 assessments taking place. These will be take place in May alongside normal learning within the classroom in order to minimise disruption to the children's routine. The tests are administered in an informal, relaxed manner with the children being at the centre of the process. If you do have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Topic

This term, our topic is Adventures at Sea!

This topic sees us taking a tour of the world in which we live. We will be learning the seven continents and the oceans of the world as well as looking at the countries within the UK. We will focus on two significant individuals this term - one per half term. The first person we will learn about is Christopher Columbus which will link to our learning about the world. Mr Stanway will be teaching this section of work. After half term, we will turn our attention to Grace Darling, linking this learning to lighthouses and the seaside. (We will be taking a very exciting trip towards the end of the summer term! Details to follow.) As always, our topic will present learning opportunities throughout the curriculum including Art, DT, Computing, History, Geography, PE, Science, English and Maths.

PE

For the first half term, P.E. sessions will take place on Wednesdays and Fridays. After half term, PE will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays as it has been previously. The children will need their P.E. kit; consisting of shorts, t-shirt and suitable footwear. It is recommended that P.E. kits are left in school during the week as we may go out on other days and I have found it is easier for the children when they are in school for the whole week. I will endeavour to send P.E. kits home every couple of weeks on a Friday. Due to Health and Safety requirements, children with earrings are unable to participate in P.E. sessions therefore it would be very much appreciated if children could come to school without their

earrings on P.E days, or alternatively, children may cover their earrings with micropore tape or small plasters prior to their P.E. session.

Homework

Guided reading sessions will continue to take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays with planners being taken in as usual on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It is always lovely to hear about what the children have been reading at home so please feel free to record such information in the planner. Guided reading homework will be set on Fridays to be returned on the following Wednesday with the previous week's reading book. This term there may be occasions where the Guided Reading homework is a comprehension activity to complement the children's learning in school.

A My Maths homework activity will be posted online on Fridays and will be due the following Wednesday.

Spellings

To begin to prepare the children for their transition to Key Stage 2, this term I will be setting a weekly list of spellings for children to practice at home. These will be put into the yellow homework book alongside the normal Guided Reading homework. At first, the spellings will be 'Common Exception Words', words which do not follow a particular rule. These are often 'red' words which you cannot 'fred'. The Common Exception Words are taken from the Year 2 National Curriculum document, which details the words that children should know by the end of Key Stage 1. Some of these may be trickier than others. Once all of the common exception words have been covered, the spellings will then link to the spelling pattern being covered in English lessons. It is asked that you practice the spellings with your child using the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' method.



This can be done inside the yellow book or you might like to do this on a whiteboard at home, if you have one, or on a separate piece of paper. Each Wednesday, we will have a go at writing those spellings that have been taken home during our English lesson to see how well the children have remembered them. The children will be encouraged to 'Match or Beat' their previous score which is something that they are used to as we do this regularly in Maths lessons. We like to come up with mnemonics to help us to remember our red words such as

Come on Muddy Elephants for the word 'come'. Feel free to make up your own to help you with your weekly spellings!

As always, if you do have any questions or worries that you would like to discuss with me please do drop in either before or after school, and if necessary, we will arrange a time when it will be convenient to talk things through.

I hope to make this term a fun and successful one with lots of different learning opportunities!

Yours sincerely

Miss C Street



Adventures at Sea



English: Using a story text, we will look at different ways to write imaginatively through writing an imaginative description as well as writing our own ship's log. We will look at poetry and how we can represent something by using different language techniques such as similes. The children will also be writing non-fiction pieces, such as captions and information texts. Through these different mediums, we will focus on how we can improve our writing by adding elements such as adjectives, joining words and different punctuation.

Maths: The children will be learning about time, turns, money, mass and capacity. There will also be a focus on refining mental methods for the four main operations.

Science: We will learn about the needs of plants and think about how we keep them alive and healthy. After half term, we will move onto looking at habitats and food chains.

R.E.: The focus for this term will be Hinduism.

P.E.: The focus for this term will be Games. The children will take part in various different multi-skill activities relating to their story for this term.

History: The focus for this term will be significant people from the past. We will learn about two such individuals; Christopher Columbus and Grace Darling.

Geography: Our focus is on the world this term and we will be learning about the different continents and oceans. We will look at the different regions of our world, as well as comparing our island, the UK, to another non-European island.

Art: There are two elements to our Art learning this term; collage and sculpture.

Music: The focus will be exploring timbre, tempo and dynamics.

Computing: The children will continue with their programming and debugging as well as thinking about how to be safe online. They will use the computer for different purposes such as research and producing bar graphs.

