

Dear Parents and Children in Class 2

Welcome back to the final summer term – I hope you have all had a restful break and enjoyed the good weather.

Please can I ask that your child has a NAMED water bottle in school. Water bottles do not need to be expensive purpose-made bottles; an empty plastic bottle is just as effective. There are times when children are given a water break during lessons and, as we don't have cups in the classroom, a bottle is essential.



We are now finalising arrangements for our residential. If you or your child has any reservations about the trip, please feel free to contact me so we can resolve them before they become bigger worries.

Finally, last term we saw a significant increase in the number of children with missing homework each week. So, to clarify, here are the usual homework expectations for Class 2 which are due in on a Friday:

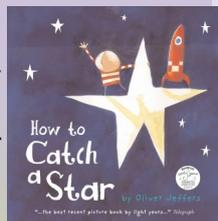
- 1 Learning Log
- 2 Reading comprehension → signed by an adult in the yellow reading record book please
- 3 Spellings and times-tables practice
- 4 Independent daily reading
- 5 iXI challenges

Thank you

Mr Woods
Class 2 Teacher

Literacy

This term we shall be enjoying a story by Oliver Jeffers called *How to Catch a Star*. With this story we will work through the stages of learning the story and its language structure, whilst understanding the plot type of 'Quest' and the character type of a 'Hero'. We will then look at what makes a



good opening for a story and produce a toolkit for our own writing. Once we have this toolkit, we will further analyse the openings from other well-known books before writing our own new story opening.

For the remainder of the term we will be looking at the non-fiction text type of *Instructions*. This will include looking closely at the language structure, the flow of the text and the grammatical conventions such as tense, person and which word classes are used most significantly. In particular we will consider the imperative language used in an instructional text. We will then use our *Instructions* toolkit to write our own texts.

Spelling

Throughout the year we spend time looking at the different spelling rules and conventions and integrate these into our literacy work. This term we will be continuing with the spelling rules for adding suffixes to words such as adding *ed* or *ing* to modify the tense of a verb.

For the final term's spelling tests I will be giving the children a weekly spelling test taken at random from a list of words (please see attached). This list is a mix of words taken from the Year 3 and 4 curriculum and covers a range of spelling rules we have covered this year.

Punctuation & Grammar

In addition to our Literacy work, where we focus on the text structure of writing, we will also spend time developing our punctuation and grammar skills. This will be through a combination of separate *Word Work* lessons and activities integrated into our main Literacy lessons.

During this term we shall be looking back at our recent assessments to pick up on any misunderstanding we had there before recapping on the four main word classes plus the word classes determiners and prepositions.

Maths

During the first part of this term we will be focussing on multiplying with decimals. This is a mental maths skill that we have visited several times over the year. We will then apply this skill to more complex written multiplications.

Following on from this, we will spend some time revisiting any aspects identified in the recent assessments that may need some clarification.

Finally, we will take a look at some maths investigations and shape tessellation as the term draws to an end.

Science

This term we will be learning about plants. Firstly, we will learn about the functions of the different parts of flowering plants. Then we will look at what plants need to live and grow, and finally we will look at the role that flowers play in the life cycles of plants, from pollination to seed spreading.

History

This term we shall be continuing with our topic: Ancient Greece. The children have already gained a good understanding of who the Ancient Greeks were and how they have influenced the world we live in today. We have looked at some of the main areas of Ancient Greece and why they were important and we have also learned about the Olympics. This term we will be looking at the Battle of Marthia (Athens vs Spartans), Greek culture and festivals as well as the Gods and Goddesses they worshipped.



Art/DT

This will be linked to our History topic of Greeks. We will be creating Greek pots and mosaics.

Computing

This term we will be looking at how computers are extremely useful at providing simulations for something that would otherwise not be possible, eg: flight simulator training for new pilots. We will consider the benefits from using computers for simulations and then take part in a simulated game all controlled through a computer simulation.

RE

This term we will continue our study of *Hinduism*.

We will begin by considering how people see things differently and relate this to the Hindu belief that there is only one God but many ways to describe God.

We will look in more detail at the three deities of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva, describing the qualities they each possess.

We will further explore the concept of reincarnation and that effects this belief has upon a Hindu's way of life.

We will look at the key features of a Mandir and describe aspects of Hindu worship before finally looking at the significance of the festival of Diwali.

Music

This half term we will be revisiting and learning more about the notes on the staff, using the notation to perform simple tunes. We will be using tuned percussion instruments to make simple tunes for each other to play, as well as using the un-tuned percussion when performing as a whole class.

Spanish

¡Hola a todos! (Hello everyone!). I hope you have all had a lovely half term break.

During the second half of this term, we will review some of the things your children have been learning during this academic year. Also, we will learn some more Spanish key sounds (Spanish phonics) and will practise these using a variety of activities. The children will progress learning new vocabulary related to classroom objects. We will also start learning how to use a bilingual dictionary.

¡Feliz Verano; / Happy Summer!

PE

Our planned PE sessions will be swimming on a Monday afternoon and PE on a Thursday afternoon. Please ensure your child has their complete PE kit in school, including outdoor footwear (separate from their normal school shoes) for the entire week, as last minute changes can sometimes occur. PE is a statutory, not optional, part of the school curriculum and as such every step possible must be taken to ensure your child can take part. Please note it is also not acceptable for children to wear items of their school uniform such as polo shirt/shoes as their PE kit.

Athletics Unit

In this unit children concentrate on developing good basic running, jumping and throwing techniques. They are set challenges for distance and time that involve using different styles and combinations of running, jumping and throwing. As in all athletic activities, children think about how to achieve the greatest speed, height, distance or accuracy. The class will concentrate on consolidating and improving the quality, range and consistency of the techniques they use for particular activities. In addition, children will attempt to describe and evaluate the effectiveness of performances and recognise aspects of performance that need improving.

PSHE

This term, as a whole school, we will be continuing our very valuable work on the development of a Growth Mindset. For those of you who attended the Growth Mindset meeting on 4 May you will know that intelligence is not fixed, learning is lifelong and effort = reward.

We will continue in assemblies to develop this essential lifelong attitude of positivity. Remember, the statement is not 'I can't do it' it's 'I can't do it YET'.

As well as continuing to sing Shakira's *I Won't Give Up*, we will learn a new song from Disney's *The Princess and the Frog* entitled *Almost There* - a jazz infused celebration of perseverance.

Please look at the school website for the details of the meeting held in this regard.

Weekly spelling: Final half term of 2016-2017 academic year

because	often
learn	worried
again	continue
replace	happily
build	remember
local	donation
thought	eighty
peace	gardener
playful	although
infection	dangerous
chef	echo
climbing	impossible
obey	parties
country	bury
decided	cousin
gentle	permission
puppies	antique
properly	guessed
returned	separate
curious	breathe

Class 2: September 2016

	9.30	9.45	12.00	1.45		
Monday	Grammar	Spelling	Book Talk/ Comprehension	Literacy	Swimming/RE	
Tuesday	Handwriting/Class Book Reading Time	Assembly	Literacy	Spelling	Science	
Wednesday		Oral/Mental Starter (Grammar)			Spanish	Music
Thursday			Numeracy	Spelling	Computing	PE
Friday	Learning Logs	Mental Maths/Grammar				History/Geography/DT/Art