

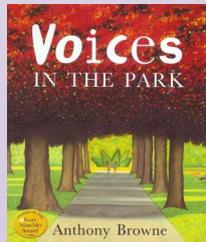
Dear Parents

Welcome back to the new term, I hope you had a lovely break during the Easter holidays. I would like to thank you for continuing to support your child's learning at home. During the last week of term the children in Year 2 will be completing the SATs papers. Please encourage your child to be resilient when approaching questions and to keep on trying. This message has been promoted by Mrs James in our recent assemblies and it really is important to ensure your child achieves to the best of their abilities.

Mrs Garley
Class Teacher

Literacy

The story the children will study this term is *Voices in the Park* by Anthony Browne. We will follow the Talk for Writing format starting with Hear, Map, Step and Speak in order to learn the story. We will also focus on the books images at the beginning of our work to investigate character types and how dialogue can help develop character.



The children will innovate new settings within the park to allow Martin Young to create areas of the park for the characters to meet in. Using these, we will work on developing character profiles to gain an understanding of how to build a character within a story.

Finally, the children will use both our characterisation and dialogue toolkits to write independently using one of the new images. The children will be introduced to the idea of dialogue through speech bubbles focussing on how powerful verb choice can build character.

Shared writing will be used, alongside analysis of

model texts to allow the children to learn and develop the techniques needed for developing character and dialogue.

The non-fiction skills focus this term will be *Persuasion*. The children will look at the features of a persuasive text by hearing, mapping, stepping and speaking a model text. They will create toolkits for this text type and then work on the imitation, innovation and inventions stages of the writing to independently write their own persuasive text.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS)

Grammar & Punctuation

This term, the children in Year 2 will work on the following areas of grammar and punctuation highlighted by our recent end of term assessments.

This term your child will be learning how to:

- Identify adverbs
- Identify adjectives
- Identify nouns
- Work with past and present tenses
- Use progressive forms of verbs in both the present and past tense

These will be noted on the Year 2 weekly spelling list to allow you to practise these areas on the IXL English website at home.

If Year 1 parents wish to use IXL English they can access the Year 2 objectives on the website using the normal IXL log in.

Spelling

Children in Year 2 will continue to work through the National Curriculum spelling rules in place of their daily phonics lessons.

The spelling rules covered this term will be:

- Suffixes : *ment, ness, ful, less* and *ly*
- Contractions
- Words ending in *tion*
- Homophones and near homophones

Year 1 will continue to work through our phonic programme.

Reading

Guided reading sessions will continue with a focus on gaining an understanding of the ideas in the texts being read. We will also work on our word class grammar knowledge.

Some groups will also work on answering more formal questions about a text. This will involve working on the skill of understanding inference rather than simple fact retrieval.

Handwriting

Year 2 children will continue to focus on joins through the use of the Nelson handwriting scheme. They will learn correct joining techniques and where each letter should sit in relation to one another. Year 1 will continue to work on presentation of their writing, focussing on correct letter formation and position. They have an opportunity to practise this independently during twice weekly dedicated handwriting sessions.

Homework

Alongside the Learning Log, spellings, word work challenge and comprehension practice sheet, Year 2 will be sent home a maths activity sheet to complete. This will help consolidate your child's ability to work on SAT-type questions in preparation for the last week of term.

Numeracy

Year 2

This term the children will continue to learn maths through the use of Numicon apparatus and by following our maths toolkits. The areas children will study are key areas for reflection as highlighted in the last term's assessments:

Calculating

- Subtracting mentally a 2-digit number from another 2-digit number where there is no regrouping (eg: $74 - 33$)
- Recognise the inverse relationships between + and - and use this to check calculations and work out missing number problems (eg: $\square - 14 = 28$)
- Use estimation to check an answer is reasonable
- Find a fraction of a number: half, quarter and three quarters
- Understand the equivalence of fractions (eg: $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4}$)

Shape, space and measure

- Choose and use appropriate standard units to estimate and measure capacity and length
- Compare and order items according to their capacity and length and record using < > and =
- Know the number of minutes in an hour and the number of hours in a day
- Read a clock to the nearest 15 minutes extending to the nearest 5 minutes
- Use different coins to make the same amount of money

Times tables

Please continue to use *IXL Maths* or *Interactive Resources* to practise times tables at home. The IR login is *Maidwell* and the password is *swimming*. Year 2 need to work on the 2, 3, 5 and 10 timetables which will help them as they move onto more challenging number problems.

Year 1

Number

- Look at patterns to solve one-step problems involving multiplication and division
- Subtract by developing an understanding of 'difference' and 'how many more'
- Focus on developing recall of adding and subtracting facts within 10

Shape, space and measure

- Tell the time to the hour and half past
- Recognise and use language relating to dates, including days of the week, weeks, months and years
- Sequence events in chronological order using appropriate language (eg: before and after, next, first, today, yesterday, tomorrow)

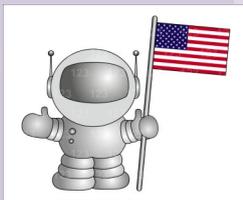
Science

All children will learn the parts of a flower and the process of germination through practical investigation. They will also investigate changes which take place from caterpillars to butterflies.

History/Geography

This term we will continue our new topic *Explorers*, moving on to focus on the life and achievements of Neil Armstrong. We will find out about the Apollo 11 mission and write our own newspaper article and the moon landings. We will consider how famous explorers are remembered and design our own commemorative symbol.

During this topic our Geography focus will be on the United States of America looking at Neil Armstrong's home state and Cape Canaveral where the missions launched.



- Targets:
- To place a historical event onto a timeline
 - To use an atlas to find locations
 - To consider what makes someone an 'explorer' not just a traveller
 - To understand the importance of Neil Armstrong

Computing

This term we will start our computing unit *We are Storytellers*. During this work the children will use sound recording equipment to record their own talking book. They will focus on developing their skills in saving and storing sounds on the computer. They will also have opportunities to focus on their teamwork skills by working collaboratively in groups. Finally they will share their recording with an audience.

Our internet safety focus will also look at reporting; how a child can ask for help. We will use a range of resources to look at ways a child can report to an adult including Smartie the Penguin on Childnet and Hector's world on CEOP's Think you know website.

Music

Our music lessons this term will link nicely to the Science topic and is entitled *Rain, Rain, Go Away*. We will explore timbre, tempo and dynamics. The children will learn a number of songs, sing them and perform accompanying percussion. They will explore ways of making a range of sounds and will read simple scores.

RE

This term we will start our new topic *The Torah: How does the Torah influence the lives of Jewish people?* During this work the children will consider aspects of the Jewish way of life and how Jewish people feel about their commitment to the rules of the Torah. They will move on to gain a deeper understanding of Jewish beliefs and lifestyles.

Through the use of stories the children will gain an understanding of how the Torah is special to Jewish people and how it teaches them to live. They will also be able to outline some of the stories from it such as Moses and Joseph.



ART

The children will be using a variety of fabric and textures to produce collage pictures as well as studying flower shapes to produce prints.

Our art will link with our Science topic of *Plants and Animals*.

PE

This term children will be enjoying their usual swimming lessons with Mrs Ogden and weekly PE lessons with Mr Smith.

Please note that PE kits should be brought into school on a Monday and remain until Friday in case of an alteration to the timetable or an extra PE lesson. Please ensure your child has kit for indoor and outdoor PE including outdoor trainers.

In this term's **Striking and Fielding** unit the children will develop basic game-playing skills, in particular throwing and catching. We will play games based on striking and fielding games (like rounders and cricket). Everybody has an opportunity to play one against one, one against two, and one against three. The children will improve and apply their basic skills in games and play games that demand simple choices and decisions on how to use space to avoid opponents, keep the ball and score points.

In all games activities, children think about how to use skills, strategies and tactics to out-wit the opposition.

PSHE

This term we will continue to develop the *Growth Mindset* concept. We will do this in assemblies and will use stories, poems and songs to reinforce the learning. The aim is to develop open-mindedness in our children and an appreciation that learning can be tricky at times but that success is a reward for keeping trying.

In the words of Shakira: “**Try Everything**”.

As usual, if you have any questions about your child at school please don't hesitate to speak to us.

