



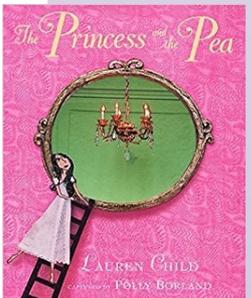
Dear Parents

Welcome back to the spring term and we hope you had a lovely break. As usual, we have lots of learning opportunities for your child to enjoy over the term.

This term, we will be introducing our Year 2 'page turners' and EYFS library to help inspire a love of reading.

Please get in touch if you have any queries regarding your child's learning. Leaving a message in the yellow home reading book is an easy way to contact us as these are checked each morning.

Mrs Littlewood & Mrs Garley
Class Teachers



Literacy

This term, children will be learning the story of *The Princess and the Pea*. We will start with our usual Talk For Writing process of hearing, mapping, stepping and speaking the story through drama activities and a story map.

The children will be concentrating on conveying the character types of each person in the story and building up a tool kit to help them do this independently in their writing.

As usual, our brilliant artist, Martin Young will be coming in to draw the innovations of the original story that the children come up with to further support and inspire their writing.

Our non-fiction focus this term is *discussion texts*. We will analyse discussion texts to find their features and develop a toolkit with icons to allow the children to internalise this format. We will also have a class debate to orally

practise having a discussion with children taking sides and explaining their reasoning. To further develop discussion text writing skills they will be used in topic lessons including science and history to allow for practice in other contexts.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS)

Grammar & Punctuation

This term, Years 1 and 2 will work on the following areas of grammar following last term's assessment.

- apostrophes for singular possession
- adverbs
- use of full stops
- contractions
- verb tenses
- suffixes

These areas can be practised on IXL English at home using your IXL log in.

Spelling

Year 1

Year 1 children will continue to work through our Phonics sound programme. In the summer term all Year 1 children will take the National Phonics Screening Test to ensure that they have retained the phonic sounds that they have been taught.

Year 2

Children in Year 2 will continue to work through the National Curriculum spelling rules in place of their daily phonics lessons. These will be further supported in their word builder books, which will be sent home each week.

The spelling rules covered this term will be:

- Suffixes: *ment, ness, ful, less*
- Contractions
- Homophones and near homophones: *there/their/they're*
- 'tion' sound eg: station, fiction, national

Reading

Guided reading sessions will continue with Year 1 children sounding out correctly and talking about their comprehension of the ideas in the texts they are studying. We will continue to focus on word class knowledge during these sessions to consolidate our grammar knowledge.

Year 2 will continue to look at reading comprehension papers to work on their ability to answer questions about a text. They will be working on how to access the more difficult paper, which contains inferred questions rather than simple fact retrieval.

This term Year 2 will be introduced to our new 'Page turner' books. Mrs James wrote to you about this initiative where we have developed a range of well-written short novels to inspire a love of reading. Many research studies highlight the link between reading for pleasure and literacy attainment and we hope to improve outcomes in reading and writing. Access to 'Page turners' will also allow children who do not yet read for pleasure to find the right book. Page turners have proved very popular in Key Stage 2 and we are hoping they will generate the same enthusiasm for reading in Year 2.

Handwriting

This term our handwriting work has been linked to the instruction texts of our vegetable soup making. The children are focusing on their presentation and spelling and once complete a laminated version of their recipe card will be sent home so you can enjoy healthy soup making together.

Additionally, Year 2 children will focus learning the new joins through the use of the Nelson handwriting scheme. Year 1 will work on presentation of their writing, focussing on correct letter formation, sizing and position. They have an opportunity to practise this independently during twice weekly, dedicated handwriting sessions. Spelling and grammar rules will also be a focus during these sessions.

Homework

Homework is given out on a Friday and needs to be handed in by the following Thursday at the latest. The word building books are to be completed weekly and we generally ask children to write a short list of words using the phoneme or spelling rule that they have been learning all week in class.

To aid their ability to respond to SAT-type questions, Year 2 need to complete their comprehension, grammar and maths worksheets. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding these.



Maths

Year 2

This term the children will use Numicon apparatus and our maths toolkits to work on their maths learning along with reflecting in their maths journals.

The areas children will study which have been identified are:

Number – multiplication and division

- Use known facts of 2, 5 & 10 times tables (including odd and even)
- Understand that multiplication is commutative
- Use division facts for 2, 5 and 10 tables
- Show that division cannot be done in any order
- Solve problems involving multiplication and division using materials, arrays, mental methods and known facts (toolkits and bar models)

Number – fractions

- Find $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a shape, length, set of objects or quantity
- Apply division facts to finding a fraction of a number

Shape, space and measure

Last term, children took some maths assessments. Some of the planning for this term is to help them consolidate their learning in the following areas:

- Estimate and measure weight in grams and kilograms record results using $<$ $=$ and $>$
- Tell and write the time to five minutes, including quarter past/to the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times
- Recognise and use symbols for pounds and pence. Combine amounts to make a particular value
- Rotation as a turn and in terms of right angles for quarter, half and three quarter turns (clockwise and anti-clockwise)
- Use subtraction toolkits to subtract sums of money
- Recap 3D and 2D shape properties and names

Times tables

Please continue to use the Interactive Recourses website to help with Times table practice at home. The IR login is *Maidwell* and the password is *swimming*. This site is particularly useful as it allows you to choose the Times Table you wish to focus on. Year 2 should focus on the 2, 3, 5 and 10 timetables.

Year 1

Number and place value

- Compare and order numbers using the $<$ $>$ and $=$ signs and the language of equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most, least
- Count to and across 100 forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1 from any given number
- Given a number identify one more and one less
- Read and write the numbers from 1-20 in numbers and words

Multiplication

- Solve one-step problems involving multiplication by calculating the answer using concrete objects, pictorial representations and arrays with support

Division

- Solve one-step problems involving division by calculating the answer using concrete objects, pictorial representations and arrays with support

At home, please focus on quick mental recall of the number bonds to ten, then extending to 20. Beginning to learn the two times table will be beneficial to our work on multiplication and division.

Shape, Space and Measure

- Measure and record weight in grams and kilograms
- Recognise and know the value of different denominations of different coins and notes
- Measure and records heights in cms
- Tell the time to the hour and half past the hour and draw hands on a clock face to show these times
- Compare and order different lengths in cms
- Recap 3D and 2D shape properties and names

Science

This term we will continue our topic *Uses of Everyday Materials*. We will continue to investigate materials and consider their properties by squashing bending, twisting and stretching them. Next, we will use our knowledge of materials to write a discussion text 'What is the best material to build a tree house from?' Finally, we will conduct our own experiment on the absorbency of a range of materials and use the experiment boxed-up plan developed last term to record our results and conclusions.

Targets:

- Identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses
- Find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.
- Work scientifically by asking questions, observing closely, performing simple tests, gathering and recording data to help answer questions.

History

This term we start our new topic *Victorian Times and Change*. We will start by investigating Victorian schools and consider the changes compared to modern education. We will hold a 'Victorian day' where the children will experience first-hand what life was like for a Victorian school child. This will take place in school on Wednesday 28 March - more details to follow. Using this experience the children will practise their discussion text skills by discussing 'Should Victorian children have been treated differently at school?'

Targets:

- To use a wide vocabulary of everyday historical terms
- To compare modern and Victorian schooling.
- To consider what life was like for Victorian children

Computing

Last term, the children used a boxed-up plan of the story type 'overcoming the monster' to create a photography project of small world people and animals. They imposed their photographs onto a PowerPoint and added a narrative to join each slide.

Following on from this, we will continue with our photography stories using a variety of different story types.

Children will learn what makes an effective photograph and how to present their work on a power point to show the class. This unit will be linked to literacy and children will have the opportunity to learn about effective story language, a variety of interesting sentence starters and conjunctions.

**Music**

In music this term we will continue to use percussion instruments to sing along to our times tables. This, paired with games, will support the learning of their 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables. Children will be recorded singing their times tables and this will be put on a CD so that they can practice in the car!

RE

This term, we will be continuing our unit on Buddhism.

Children will be:

- Sculpting Buddhas out of clay and learning about the symbolism of these models
- Learning and reflecting on another Buddhist story 'Buddha and the Injured Swan' and acting this out to perform
- Making 'mala' beads and learning about how Buddhists use these
- Receiving a visit from a member of a Buddhist community. Children will be able to ask questions and learn about Buddhist offerings and practices
- Looking at the symbolism of sand mandalas and creating their own
- Reflecting on the unit on the last week of term.

ART/DT

This term our Art/Design and Technology work will be linked to our Science materials topic. We will use clay to produce small thumb pots and decorate these using our own ideas about colour and pattern.

Year 2 children will also work collaboratively in pairs to make class pots which will be used to decorate the classroom window sills. This will allow for further extension of using clay and considering its properties, alongside developing teamwork skills through consultation and decision making about size and decoration of their partner pots.

PE

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

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.

The focus for this term's PE unit of work is **Creative Skills**, with a physical focus on Co-ordination and Ball Skills for the first three lessons and on Counter Balance in Pairs for the remaining three lessons. The learning goals for this unit are:

- I can begin to compare my movements and skills with those of others. I can select and link movements together to fit a theme
- I can explore and describe different movements

PSHE

This term we will continue to focus on the development of Growth Mindsets during assemblies. The children will engage in a variety of activities within their assembly groups which will support positivity and resilience. We will begin by creating a school set of instructions on how to be a Superlearner.

Belongings and Toys from Home

As previously advised, we do encourage children not to bring toys in from home as experience has shown that they can get lost or damaged at school and can sometimes be a distraction to the children during the school day.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

