

Dear Parents and Children in Class 2

Welcome back to our final term of the year.

Please can I ask that your child has a NAMED water bottle in school every day. Water bottles do not need to be expensive purpose-made bottles. An empty plastic bottle is just as effective.

We are now finalising arrangements for our residential. If you or your child have 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 an increasing number of children with missing homework each week, especially the reading comprehension homework. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's homework please feel free to contact me.

Thank you.

Mr Woods  
Class 2 Teacher

### Literacy

This term we shall be enjoying a story by Oliver Jeffers called *The Way Back Home*. With this story we will work through the stages of learning the story and its language structure whilst understanding the plot type of 'Voyage & Return' and the character type of a 'Helper'. 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

*Explanation.* 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 formality of an explanation text and the way 'sentence starters' can be used to inspire our reader and draw them in to the text.

### Punctuation & Grammar

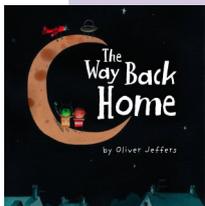
In addition to our Literacy work, where we focus on the text structure of writing, we will also spend time developing our punctuation and grammar skills. This will be through a combination of separate *Word Work* lessons and activities integrated into our main Literacy lessons.

During this term we will be securing our understanding of apostrophes for contraction followed by singular and plural possession along with how not to confuse the apostrophe with a simple plural.

### 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 completing or work on 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 single list of words. 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.



## 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 our topic will be *Living Things and Habitats*.

Through this topic we will understand how animals, insects and plants are classified into different species. To help us with this topic, we will learn how to use a Branching Database to sort the criteria we are using to classify an animal, insect or plant.

## History

Hopefully the children in Class 2 and 3 have spent some time over the holidays exploring our next History topic: *Prehistoric Britain – The Stone Age through to The Iron Age*. The children will be able to share their findings then throughout the term. We will look at how people survived each of the Ages; focus on Stonehenge - what it is and how it was built; why hillforts were so popular and who the Druids were.

## Art/DT

Glen Cosens will be visiting for several art days this term. She will be creating murals (for the playground) which will remind the children about taking care of the various systems in our bodies. The artwork will then form part of an exercise circuit around the playground.

## Computing

This term we shall continue with our digital video project. The children will be using a piece of software called Movie Maker which can be downloaded for free so your child can continue with their work at home if you wish!

Finally, we shall complete our online safety work this year with a look at “*Virtual friendship vs real friendship: who can we trust?*”. This unit will allow us to remember that ‘friends’ on line are not necessarily ‘real friends’ in the true sense of the word.

## RE

This term we will continue with our topic entitled *Whose World Is It?* We will look at a number of stories of creation from different religions and explore the impact that religion can have on people’s lifestyles. We will also look at a non-religious answer to the question of how the world was created and reflect upon and respond to the scientific account of how the world began. Finally we will reflect on our own views and empathise with a range of different views.

## Music

For the final half term of the year we will be focussing on composition work. We will revisit the piece 'In the Hall of the Mountain King' and improvise percussion pieces inspired by the music. We will compose a piece of music based on a poem and write down a composition in the form of a graphic score. The class will continue to develop their knowledge of musical notation, their co-ordination and rhythmic skills as well as continue to use musical terms and vocabulary.

## Spanish

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

During the last part of this term, children in Years 3 and 4 will continue with the topic of food. They will learn to ask and answer some questions about food. They will learn to ask and answer prices in the context of a cafe/restaurant and do a little role play. They will learn how to give their opinion in Spanish using I like/dislike. Also, they will learn the name of some fruit.

## 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.**

The focus for this half term's unit of work is **Health & Fitness Skills** with a physical focus on Agility: Ball Chasing and Static Balance: Small Base. The learning goals for this unit are:

- I can describe the basic fitness components and explain how often and how long I should exercise to be healthy. I can record and monitor how hard I am working
- I can describe how and why my body feels during and after exercise. I can explain why we need to warm up and cool down
- I can say how my body feels before, during and after exercise. I use equipment appropriately and move and land safely

## PSHE

We will continue to focus on creating a positive/growth mindset in all of the children. We will look at people who are famous who did not achieve success in the beginning and link this to our daily failures/successes.

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