



Curriculum Newsletter for Year 2 Spring Term 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to a new term - we hope you all had a wonderful break. Thank you so much for the lovely cards and gifts at the end of the term!

During these first few days back, the children will be doing a **Geography** topic where they will be finding answers to the question 'What is it like where we live?' This unit will focus on the amenities in Tatworth and has already included a walk around the village to explore the local area! The class will also be working on their map work skills and will present what they have learnt in the end of term class assembly.

After half term, the **RE** focus is "Why is Jesus important?" This includes learning about Jesus' parables and the importance of Easter to Christians. The children will make an Easter garden and will engage in role play - acting out some of the important stories.

In Literacy, the children will continue to work through the Ruth Miskin's '**Read, Write Inc.**' programme developing skills in writing, grammar, comprehension, spelling, handwriting and vocabulary.

In Numeracy, we will be completing work using the "Maths No Problem" scheme and will focus on length, mass, graphs and money this half term and then shape, time and volume after the half term break. Throughout this work, opportunities for further calculation work will be incorporated as well as solving word problems. We are keen for all the children to be secure with the number bonds to 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. The children will also be learning the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables.

In Science this half term, the children will be learning about plants. We will be identifying and naming a variety of common plants, observing and describing how plants grow and the conditions they need to grow and stay healthy. We will also explore the role of flowers in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.

*For one of their lessons in January, they will need the bottom half of a transparent 2 litre drinks bottle (**NAMED**). Feel free to send one in at any time, we will start a collection!*

In DT on Monday and Tuesday afternoons, the class will be learning about textiles. They will learn how to make a template, explore some joining techniques and sew a felt puppet. If any parents or grandparents are available to help children with their sewing, this would be greatly appreciated. The sessions are on Monday 22nd January, Tuesday 23rd January, Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th January, Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th February from 2-3p.m. Please let either Mrs Reid or Mrs Retter know - many thanks. During the second half of the half term, Monday and Tuesday afternoons will be spent doing Music with Miss Morton.

Please note that during this first half term, Mrs Churchill will teach PE each Wednesday and Forest school on Thursday mornings. During PE, the children will be doing dance, gym and some multi-skills sessions outside. This means that they will need to wear warm clothing!

During ICT on Monday, Mr Goodman will be working on Scratch again. This time making longer games and animations, incorporating variables and scores. In addition, he will begin to look at shortening commands to make algorithms more efficient and easier to debug.

Homework

Maths games will continue to be sent home each Friday and collected in on Wednesdays.

Your child will be bringing home their first RWI book on Wednesday 17th January. We ask that you hear your child read on a daily basis and at least five times a week, as this will develop their reading, fluency and comprehension skills. As always, please note that you have heard them, with any relevant comments, in their Reading Record. The children have really improved in their fluency and pace of reading. We are particularly concentrating on using some *inference* type questions now where children need to find the exact evidence in a piece of text.

Children will receive new spellings to practise at home each half term, building on from their learning in class. Please continue to send the books in to school every Wednesday so that we can monitor their progress. There will be one test at the end of each half term.

Thank you for all your support.

Mrs Retter and Mrs Reid