



YEAR 2 NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM 2018

Welcome!

Welcome back to school and to the new school year. We hope that you have had a wonderful summer break and are looking forward to working with us to support your child with their learning.

Dates for your diary:

Friday 11th January - Friends of Byron Pantomime.

Monday 4th February - NSPCC – Stay Safe, Speak Out assembly.

Wednesday 6th February – SSE water to visit Year 2 – Environmental Talk – Where water comes from, why water needs treating before we drink it and how to save water.

Thursday 7th March – World Book day.

Tuesday 19th / Wednesday 20th March – Parents Evenings.

Learning Challenge

At the end of last term, Year 2 embarked on a new learning journey in Literacy called Talk for Writing developed by Pie Corbett. Talk for writing enables children to imitate the language they need for a particular topic orally before reading and analysing it and then writing their own version. We will begin by looking at Non – Chronological reports and Recount texts during the first half of the Spring Term. We hope you enjoyed reading your child's Talk for Writing version of The Gingerbread Girl, which was sent home at the end of last term.

Year 2 read daily in their Success for all reading lessons and complete a weekly reading comprehension task to assess their understanding of what they have read. We are delighted to now have 3 reading volunteers who read with Year 2 pupils each week and allow extra opportunities to read in school. It is vital that you read at home with your child. Reading books aloud stimulates imagination and expands your child's understanding of the world and helps develop language. Even if your child can read independently, it is still important to read aloud together.

In maths, your child will continue to complete a weekly speed test to help develop number fluency. We will work on arithmetic skills (+ - ÷ x) and continue with our Maths Mastery units. This term we will be learning to tell the time, fractions, money and adding and subtracting 2 digit numbers.

P.E.

We will have a PE session on a Thursday afternoon but named PE kits need to be at school every day. Even though we have allocated PE days, sometimes PE days will change, due to unforeseen circumstances. Jewellery is not permitted and any children wearing it will be asked to take it off. Any earrings must be stud earrings, any other designs will be covered up with plasters.

Celebrations

Every week we hold a Golden Book Assembly where we celebrate children's achievements both in and outside school. If your child has recently done something that they are particularly proud of and would like to share their success with everyone, please encourage them to bring this information in so that it can be shared in assembly.

In addition to this Year 2 pupils will now have the opportunity to receive a celebration postcard through the post. Each week a child will be chosen who has excelled at something in their learning, been particularly kind and helpful to others or demonstrated one of our school Learning Muscles.

Attendance and Punctuality

We cannot stress enough the importance of regular attendance to give the children every opportunity to progress in all areas of the curriculum. Please remember that registration is at 8.55am and that children can come in to the classroom at 8.45am.

Other Information

Please drop your child at the classroom door. We expect the children to come into the classroom by themselves each morning. They need to independently hang up their coats, and settle to early morning work, which will be set out on the tables.

Homework

Reading: The children should be reading every night as this will greatly help their progress. Please make sure you sign your child's reading diary to show us that they have read and any comments are greatly appreciated.

Spelling: We will give your child a list of words to practise on a Friday. Spelling tests will be on the following Friday so you will have a week to practice each set of words. We will be focusing this term on word patterns and families.

Homework Menu: Activities will be linked to our IPC topic. It is helpful if when an activity is completed your child's homework book is submitted for marking on a Wednesday. This will then be returned to you on the Friday.

Maths: In addition to the homework menu, Year 2 will be receiving a weekly maths activity, which will help to consolidate the learning that they have done in class. This is an **OPTIONAL** activity and does not need to be returned to school for marking.

