



# Year 2 Spring Newsletter



Welcome to the second part of the Spring Term. We hope you all had a good break; we have another busy and exciting term planned.

## Topic

During this term, children will continue our *Geography* topic on Map skills. The children are developing key map skills through a range of engaging geographical skill based activities. They will now begin to follow a map using the skills they have learnt and follow directions linked to finding different destinations. The children will create their own map of the local area, using map features and symbols. We will also go on a trip around our local area to plot our own journey on a map we create.



Alongside our *Geography* topic we will also be looking at climate change and eco awareness. The children will be researching the impact of pollution, how to reduce our carbon footprint and become more aware of the growing impact of humans on our precious World.



## English

Your child is learning to read with Read Write Inc. Phonics, a very popular and successful literacy programme. Your child will learn to read in a very simple way. He or she will learn to: \*Read letters by their 'sounds' \*Blend these sounds into words \*Read the words in a story. Your child will bring home a levelled letter at each re-grouping. This will detail the learning taking place within the daily lessons. If your child is no longer on Read Write Inc. they will be looking at non-fiction texts. They will compare the differences between fiction and non-fiction books and looking at the features of non-fiction texts. The children will be researching, drafting and editing their own written work to create their own non-fiction book. Throughout this, we will be using the internet and books from the library to research. Our expectation is that children's handwriting will begin to improve this term as they begin to control their letter formation so that the size of their letters becomes more consistent. Checking and editing their work independently will drive the children's success and motivation in developing their stamina. Please continue to encourage daily reading at home as building fluency is a key to success.

## Maths

In Maths, we will be focusing on the division of 2, 5 and 10 as well as beginning to look at length. During multiplication and division of 2, 5 and 10, the children will look at different ways of sharing, including sharing and grouping before covering division by 2, 5 and 10. Pupils will also investigate links between multiplication and division and odd and even numbers. During the next chapter of length, the children will gain a better understanding of how to measure length. They will begin by understanding what a metre is and what centimetres are and then progress to using them in real-life contexts.

## Science

This half-term we will continue to work through our 'Materials' topic. We will explore how objects made of some everyday materials can change shape and how the recycling process is able to reuse some everyday materials numerous times. It finishes with the children learning about new discoveries which have made over time with a specific focus on John McAdam. A range of learning activities are used in this unit including, discussions, debates, sequencing and a local walk where children work scientifically to identify the uses of everyday materials in the local area. This also overlaps with our environment topic and we will investigate the impact of man-made materials and how us, as humans, can begin to repair our precious world.

## Art/DT

Our main Art focus this term will continue to be our 'Visible Learning' by John Hattie. As part of this project all the children will be developing their drawing skills, based on the theme of 'fish'. They will be drafting and redrafting following feedback their designs and reflecting on how their feedback helped them improve. The children will receive feedback from both staff and other children in their class as research suggests this is a powerful way of enabling improvements to be made. Later in the term, we will be exploring the fish theme by working with local artists.

## PE

In Outdoor PE we will be learning how to play cricket.

The children will learn how to catch and throw across different distances with accuracy. They will develop their skills of cooperation, exploring how working as a team helps to prevent the opposition from scoring points. The children will develop tactical skills, understanding effective ways to 'run the points'. Children will have the opportunity to design and play a range of mini team games to help them identify and improve their skills.

During indoor PE we will be learning dance.

The Toys Unit for Year 2 encourages children to think about the speed, weight and size of their movements in the context of toys from the past and present. The children pretend to be and play with imaginary toys. They work in different formations, synchronizing their movements with their partner's and within larger groups. They move to different rhythms, speed up and slow down and use their own bodies to produce rhythms. They move on to holding rigid group formations to a steady beat. The children act and react in pairs through movement and expression. They copy and improvise movement patterns putting

them together to build motifs of their own to convey ideas in response to stimuli. They are able to describe their own and other's movements and suggest improvements as they watch each other perform.

## RE

In RE we will be focusing on Easter; Resurrection. We will be learning to re-tell the Easter story and understand what Jesus' resurrection means for Christians. The key question for our enquiry will focus on the importance of Jesus coming back to life after his crucifixion and how significant this is to Christians.

## PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, Education)

Our focus for the half term is titled 'Healthy Me', and within this we will learn all about making healthy choices, including eating well, being active, keeping ourselves safe and being a good friend. We will also learn some strategies to help us to keep calm and deal with difficult situations sensibly and well.

## Music

In music this half term we will be continuing to follow the 'Charanga' scheme and continue to embed the interrelated dimensions of music through games, singing and playing. We will be focussing on the theme 'Zoo time'.

## Other

Please continue to encourage your children to read every night for at least 20 minutes; this can be reading of any genre. Reading books are changed every Friday.

Homework will continue to be given out Friday and collected in on Wednesdays.

**Thank you for your support with encouraging children to develop their independence. The children are now coming into the school by themselves in the mornings.**

**PLEASE NOTE: 2B (Miss Minty) will now have PE on a Monday and a Tuesday.**

## Key dates:

21<sup>st</sup> March: Grand Exhibition in the School Hall - further information to follow.

22<sup>nd</sup> March: 2A (Miss Munro) - Class Assembly at 2.15pm

Look out for dates for the trip of 'Our local Area'

## Useful Websites

Maths - <https://nrnich.maths.org/>

<https://whiterosemaths.com/>

All subjects - <https://www.busythings.co.uk/> (Login = home8972 Password: Crazy8362)

### Questions to ask at home

Science - Can you fold metal? How can you make newspaper stronger? Does metal stretch? How would you describe glass?

Maths - Can you check the inverse when dividing/multiplying to check the answer is correct? What does  $-$ ,  $\times$ ,  $+$ ,  $\div$  stand for? What is rule when diving by two (double the number).

English - What are the features of poetry? Can you answer questions about a story you've just read.

Topic - How can you remember North South East West? Why do we plan a route? What is a key?