

## Year 2 Newsletter – Spring 1 2024

### **Welcome Back**

We are looking forward to having all the children back at school. It's going to be a busy half term with lots of things going on. Any questions please don't hesitate to ask!

### **Phonics and Reading**

We are pleased to see so many children making the most of their reading books at home. Children are being very responsible and remembering to bring these every day. Your support in reading at home is invaluable, so we want to hear about books you and your child have shared and enjoyed. Don't forget to sign and add a quick comment!

In class we will work on the skills of comprehension, while we continue to focus on expression and fluency.

*Recommended reads:* In class we are sharing the story of 'Matilda'

### **Writing**

In the first half of the Spring Term we will be sharing 2 books and 1 film; Tom and the Great Fire of London, Meerkat Mail and a short film clip called The Bridge. From these we will be learning key Literacy skills including descriptive writing, sentence building, story planning and instructional writing.

### **Maths**

This term we will finish our unit of work on Shape and then begin our next unit on Money. This work builds on the last term's knowledge of Place Value, which is a key strand when working with money. Later on in the term we will begin to look at Multiplication and Division. Children are becoming more familiar with basic strategies as we build on our knowledge of 2, 5 and 10 times tables through rock star maths. If you wish to encourage your child to join in with our weekly competition, this may well help build up confidence as we work in class. If there are any other questions or ways in which you would like to support your child, please feel free to come in and ask.



### **Science**

Recognising that materials are suitable for specific purposes and understanding their properties, exploring how actions such as stretching and bending affect the shape of solid objects and comparing the suitability of materials by carrying out tests and recording data.



### **Computing**

This term we will complete the unit called Questioning. This is designed to help children learn about the importance of phrasing questions and that certain data-handling resources are limited in the answers they can provide.



### **Art – Painting and Mixed Media**

Name the primary and secondary colours. Talk about the colour changes they notice and make predictions about what will happen when two colours mix. Describe the colours and textures they see. Try different tools to recreate a texture and decide which tool works best. Show they can identify different textures in a collaged artwork. Apply their knowledge of colour mixing to match colours effectively. Choose collage materials based on colour and texture.



### **History – The Great Fire of London**

The children will have the opportunity to increase their awareness of the past by learning about what London was like in the 17th century. They compare life in the 17th century to the present day and consider how some problems, such as the lack of an organised fire brigade and the type of buildings, caused the fire to spread. Children then focus on how and why some things changed as a result of the fire, in order to be safer. They begin to learn how historical sources can tell us about what happened in the past and how some sources are more useful than others.

### **Music**

We will learn to listen and appraise a number of pieces of Rock music together, before learning and performing a number of rock songs.



### **PE – Thursday and Friday**

Children will have two separate lessons during the week. One will be a lesson focused on ball skills whilst the other is a dance unit based upon the Great Fire of London.



**PSHE**

Aspirations, how to achieve goals and understanding the emotions that go with this.



**RE - Christianity**

This topic looks at some of the special events that take place for Jews in their lives.



**Homework Project**

Children may want to complete their own research on the Great Fire of London.

They could be creative and make their own Tudor house, or find about the work of the modern day fire and rescue service. This could be presented as a model or a scrap book – the choice is yours!



**Skills Builder**

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people. Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities.



**Times Tables Rockstars**

All children will be provided with their own log in details so you can access at home.



**Spelling Shed**

All children will be provided with their own log in details so you can access at home.



**Rewards**

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



**Class information**

**Class Teacher:** Mrs Smith

**Teaching Assistants:** Mrs May-Madden, Mrs Bradshaw & Miss White.

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.



**Dates for the diary!**

**Spring 1**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January - Training Day

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Training Day

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January – School reopens to pupils

W/B 12<sup>th</sup> February – Parents’ Workshare Sessions (Maths) – days and timings tbc

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – school closes for Half Term



**Spring 2**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February – School reopens to pupils

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March- Parents Evening; 4-7pm

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March- Parents Evening; 3.30-6pm

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose day – tbc

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March – school closes for Easter

