



Class 2's Newsletter - Summer 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back! I hope that you have all had a lovely Easter break. I can't believe that we are in the final term of the year, it has gone so quickly! I hope that you find this newsletter helpful and informative about what we shall be covering during our final term.

Topic

The children have really enjoyed our last two topics and I'm sure that our new topic will be the icing on the Year 2 cake! This term our new topic is 'On the Coast!' and I know that the children are already looking forward to finding out what we will be doing. We shall be exploring the coast including the creatures that live there, the features that make up the coast, the history of the coast and developing our understanding of the oceans and continents around the world. We shall also be comparing the seaside today to how it was in the past. The children are already coming up with their own ideas and questions for what they would like to find out about. Therefore there will also be the opportunity for the children to develop their own ideas and interests within the topic. If you have any interesting information, books or seaside items that we could borrow that would help us learn more about our topic then please send them into school with your child.

Also could you please send your child to school with a photograph of them at the seaside preferably on the beach if you have one? We shall be using these to compare our holidays to those in the past. We will be continuing to have Rock-It music sessions on a Tuesday morning where the children are becoming proficient on a range of instruments including the keyboard. They will also be reading and learning vocabulary from the French version of the story The Rainbow Fish. During the topic, we will be going to visit Tesco in Rugeley to learn about different fish and where it comes from. This will link to our topic and our Science work. After half term, the children would like to put on a class assembly for parents to come in and watch. We would like this to take place on Thursday 28th June from 2.30 until 3pm. More details about this event will follow.

Literacy

We will be looking at a range of different fiction and non-fiction texts, stories such as the Jack and the Flumflum Tree, Pirates and Pocket Pirates. In addition, we will be learning how to write explanation texts by learning all about the interesting world of rock pools and hermit crabs. Throughout the term, the children will be learning to recite some poetry linked to our topic including the classic poem, The Owl and the Pussycat. They will continue to develop their writing skills focusing on the words that they use, adding detail to their writing and considering who is reading their work. We shall be continuing our phonics lessons 4 times a week and will be mainly focusing on Phase 6. The main aim in Phase 6 is for children to become more fluent readers and accurate spellers, we will therefore be focusing on suffixes, such as -ment, ly, -est. Those children who have any gaps in their phonic knowledge will receive extra help at other times during the day to ensure that they are not missing out on these helpful strategies. We will continue to send the children home some spellings and will test the children on their spellings every week. After much practise, the children are being encouraged to use their joined handwriting in all lessons when writing so please encourage them to do so when completing homework or when writing at home.

Numeracy

The children will be using mental maths strategies to solve 'real life' problems that involve number, money and measures. They will be learning how to divide shapes and numbers into halves, quarters and thirds. We will be revisiting multiplication, division and time and extending our understanding. To help your child at home you could help them to practice their 2, 10, 5, 3 and 4 times-tables so

that they can respond to questions such as 3×5 and 7×2 instantly. When analysing data the children will need to be able to use pictograms and bar charts. Three mornings a week, the children are working on their mental maths skills including number bonds, place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We shall also be focusing on the children use of vertical addition and subtraction to answer calculations and to solve problems.

Science

This term the children will be learning about plants and habitats. They will learn some names of plants and animals living in their local area. Also naming and explaining the job of parts of a plant and explore where different animals live. During our work on plants and animals we will be visiting our wildlife area and investigating what habitats different animals and plants choose to live in and considering reasons why. We will also link this to our topic and learn about the different habitats, plants and animals we find at the coast and how they have adapted to suit their homes.

PE

This term, as you know, the children will be going swimming on Wednesday morning. Could you please make sure that the children bring a towel, swimming hat and costume or trunks and that all of these items are named. If you have any concerns about your child swimming, please do not hesitate to let me know as soon as possible. We will be starting swimming on Wednesday 18th April. We will also be having a PE session on Monday afternoon when the children will need their PE kit. **We will mostly be going outside for PE so it would be useful if the children could bring in a pair of trainers so that running on the field and the playground is safer.** In sunny weather, shorts and t-shirt will be appropriate but please ensure that the children have a jumper and jogging bottoms just in case the weather is cooler. Please could you make sure that your child's kit is labelled as it makes it so much easier to return if it gets mislaid or lost. If the children have earrings, they will need to be able to remove them on their own or they should not wear earrings on Monday or Wednesday.

Homework and Reading

Each Friday the children will be given a piece of Numeracy or Literacy homework which is **due in on a Tuesday**. Please support your child and encourage them to complete their homework, as it is good preparation for Key Stage 2. If for any reason you and your child can not complete the homework then do not hesitate to come and see me. We will continue to read with the children on a Monday and a Thursday. Please try to put a comment in their reading record book after you have listened to them read noting how they got on, words that they struggled with and any discussions the book may have instigated.

Reminder

I ask that each day your child continues to bring a fresh bottle of water to keep on their desk to drink throughout the day and they either bring 20p for toast or a snack for morning break. This term, the children will be completing their Standard Assessment Tests (SATs). These are tests that the children have to complete for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar, Reading and Mathematics. The children complete these activities in small groups under relaxed conditions as this ensures that no added pressure is put on the children. I encourage parents to continue this ethos at home to avoid unnecessary worry for the children. This testing will take place during the week beginning Monday 21st May. If you have any questions or queries which the newsletter does not answer, then please do not hesitate to come in and see me before or after school. Thank you for your support.

Mrs S Richards