



Class 2's Newsletter - Spring 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

A very Happy New Year to you all and welcome back! I hope that you have all had an enjoyable Christmas with your families. As you know, the children were phenomenal last term with the effort they put into their 'Starlight' performance and it made us all super proud of them. Now it's time to bounce into our Spring term so that we can work hard, learn and have some fun! As always, please feel free to speak to any member of the Year 2 team when you see us. We are here to help and will always try our best to resolve any issues or concerns that you may have. Our learning journey in Year 2 is now in full swing and we are really looking forward to building on all the effort from the Autumn term. We are sure that in the coming days, weeks and months your children will have lots to tell you about what they have been learning in school!

Topic

This term our topic is 'Towels, Tunnels and Turrets!' and the children are going to love it! A key focus will be castles; including finding out where they are located in the U.K, learning the different parts of a castle and understanding what castle life was actually like. We will also be learning about The Royal Family whilst evaluating the strengths of different structures to support our D.T project of designing and building a throne. William Turner will be the artist we are focusing on and after the fantastic pieces of art all the children produced last term I am thoroughly looking forward to watching their creativity flourish once more. The highlight of it all though will be our visit to Tamworth Castle! Here the children will get to explore a real castle; hear tales of what castle life was like and take part in several fun activities that will help to support all the learning we have done in school.

Literacy

We will use several texts this term as we continue to support the children with building their sentence writing skills. We will start with 'The Building Boy' by Ross Montgomery. The children will continue with their 'sentence stacking', which is helping them improve their writing. As part of this, there will still be a strong focus on developing their vocabulary skills as well as consistently implementing key punctuation such as capital letters, full stops and commas. We will also be using our SPAG lessons to support this, together with learning about more about conjunctions and the different uses for an apostrophe. We are progressing nicely with our Anima Phonics scheme too which includes a variety of activities to support the children with their reading and spelling ability.

Numeracy

In our Numeracy lessons this term we will continue to support the class with their place value skills. We will also be exploring 2D and 3D shapes. This will involve the naming of different shapes as well as understanding their properties. We will be building on our current understanding of money by making different amounts using both coins and notes and learning what change is and how it is calculated. Multiplication and division will be a key focus. The children will learn how to use arrays, share and recognise equal groups. We will also be developing their times tables skills with an emphasis on 2s, 5s and 10s. Our learning for the term will culminate by introducing the children to how we can read and record measurements for length, height, mass and temperature.

Science

This term the children will be learning about animals. They will learn about the basic needs of survival of some animals they already know and perhaps some animals they had no idea existed! Life cycles will be investigated as we help the children to understand that animals have offspring that change and grow into adults. We will also learn about hygiene, nutrition and different forms of exercise. It will be a fascinating Science topic that I'm sure the children will thoroughly enjoy!

PE

Our PE sessions remain on a Monday and Thursday afternoon. Due to the unpredictable weather of winter, please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately. If they are wearing shorts and a t-shirt please make sure that the shorts are navy or black and that the t-shirt is white.

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 email me. Your child's reading day will remain the same but please help them to bring their reading books in every day so that if they are asked to read with an adult on an additional day too, they have it ready in their bag. It would also be really helpful and beneficial for your child if you could try and read with them as often as possible. They will receive a house point each time they read at home so please make sure you write in their Reading Record too. When you do this, identifying anything they did well, or struggled with, would be really appreciated too. Do not hesitate to read a book more than once as this can support your child's understanding of what they are reading. Please support them with understanding any new vocabulary as well as asking them questions about what they have read.

Reminder

I ask that each day your child continues to bring a fresh bottle of water to keep in the class to drink throughout the day. The children can bring a snack into school for morning break or they can have toast which can be paid for via our ParentPay system.

If you have any questions or queries which the newsletter does not answer, then please do not hesitate to email me at staff38@croft.staffs.sch.uk.

Mr Ashley