

Year 2 newsletter

Term 1

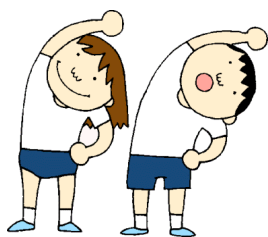
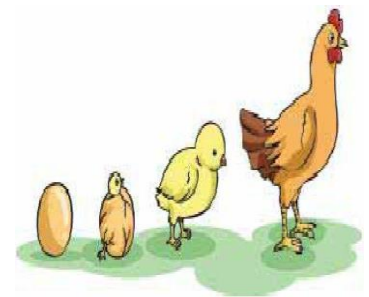
Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely summer break. I am looking forward to getting to know all the children this term and to starting an exciting year in Year 2!

Our English lessons this term will be based on two stories. These are 'Supertato' by 'Sue Hendra' and 'Tractionman' by 'Mini Grey'. The children will change the ending of the story 'Supertato', creating their own version of events. They will also write a recount as Tractionman, describing what he comes across in the story. Our grammar lessons will focus on the use of capital letters and full stops, introducing children to the past tense and distinguishing between nouns, adjectives and verbs. We will also be reading the story 'The Magic Faraway Tree' by Enid Blyton as a book for the children to just enjoy.



This term, our Maths lessons will focus on place value, such as reading and writing numbers to 100, ordering and comparing numbers in a sequence and explaining the value of a two digit number (e.g. 13 = 1 ten and 3 ones). We will then go on to look at addition, where we use pictorial representations of number to support children with understanding how to add. I will provide support and guidance for this on request. Over the year, the children will be learning their 2, 5 and 10 times tables so that they can fluently recall the times table facts in order and out of order. You can also practise these on Times Tables Rockstars!

Our Science topic for the term is 'Animals Including Humans'. As part of this topic, we will be looking at how animals and humans grow. We will also look into the basic needs of humans and animals. We will then conduct an experiment to see why humans need to exercise and finally, how and why we need to keep ourselves clean.



This term, our PE lessons will be on a Wednesday. Each Wednesday, **the children should come to school in their PE kit, which they will stay in all day.** This will mean that they won't need to get changed in school and will reduce the risk of losing/misplacing clothing or putting on items belonging to others. Please make sure that your child is wearing a suitable PE kit for the weather that day, such as a t-shirt, shorts and trainers for warm and sunny weather, or a tracksuit and trainers for colder weather.

In Computing, we will be looking at the topic 'Using the Internet'. The children will look at how we use search engines to find what we are looking for and how to use the internet safely. We will also create our own class 'blog' where the children can practise uploading appropriate content and writing positive comments on each other's work.



In our Design and Technology lessons, the children will be looking at the current playground equipment that we have in school. We will then go to the park and visit the playground, picking a piece of equipment that they would like or could adapt to work in our school. The children will then design their own piece of equipment before having a go creating a freestanding structure prototype!

Our Geography lessons will focus on Nythe. The children will look at aerial photographs of Nythe, locating geographical features. We will then take a walk around the area and create our own maps of Nythe. They will be introduced to keys and symbols in current maps before adding these to their own map.

Our mascot for this term is the 'Responsible Robin' where we will be exploring responsibility. The children will learn about the British Value of Democracy in addition to following our Jigsaw PSHE scheme of work looking at the unit 'Being me in my world'. In Music, we will be having recorder lessons provided by the Swindon Music Service. In RE, we will be looking at the big question 'How should we care for others and the world, and why does it matter?'

Reading

Reading is an important part of the curriculum and, as such, we believe that continuing to read with your child daily can improve their reading skills significantly. Therefore, we would appreciate it if you could read with your child as often as possible. This does not have to be your child reading to you, it could include sharing a book and discussing the content, as this helps tremendously with comprehension.

This year, instead of reading records, each child has been set up with a 'virtual' reading record. You should have received a letter with information about this as well as how to access this from home. Please let me know if you are struggling with accessing this so we can continue to work together on improving reading across the school.



Children will continue to receive the following homework weekly:

- Spellings
- Reading
- Times Tables (the 2,5 and 10 times tables)

In addition to this, there will be optional homework that can be completed in relation to the work we are doing in school. This can be handed in at any time during the term. The following are a list of ideas for your child to choose from:

- Write a book review of the book you are currently reading. What did you like about it? What would you change? Who was your favourite character? What rating would you give it out of 5? Is it similar to any other books you have read? You can then come and share this with the class!
- Take a walk outside with your family. Can you find any human or physical features that we identified in class?
- Create your own front cover for 'The Magic Faraway Tree'. Can you make it better than it already is?
- In D&T, we are creating our own piece of playground equipment. Could you imagine what a playground might look like in the future? Have a go at designing and labelling one to show.
- Can you practise your typing on the computer? How quickly can you write your name? Can you write a sentence including a capital letter and full stop?
- Our whole school theme is about being a 'Responsible Robin'. What does responsibility mean? Can you create an acrostic poem to show how you can be responsible?

I look forward to working with you and your child this year. Remember, if at any time you have any concerns about your child, please feel free to contact the office to make an appointment to see me.

With best wishes,

Mrs Lambert