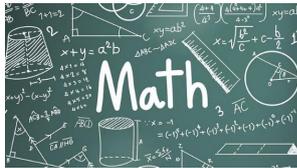


Dear Parents/carer,

Welcome back to the beginning of our spring term. This curriculum newsletter will give you an outline of what your child will be covering in class 2 throughout the term. If you have any artefacts or resources that would help to enhance or support our curriculum then please come and let us know as I know the children are excited to get you involved as much as possible. If you or anyone you know could come in to talk to the children and share experiences and expertise then we would love to hear from you.



ENGLISH This term in our English lessons the children will be exploring a wide variety of techniques using these to write detailed narrative stories and diary entries. We will also be encouraging the children to develop their own style of writing, either non-fiction or fiction, which may be influenced by life events or stories which they have previously read. Within our lessons the children will be developing their writing skills through exploring a range of grammatical features that are specific to that piece of writing using our sentence tool kit. This term we are starting by looking at the book 'The Ice Bear' by Jackie Morris. We will also continue with daily guided reading sessions and the children will continue to develop their inference and deduction skills to ask and answer questions from the shared text. Please remember that it is also extremely important that you listen to your child read every day and fill in their reading record book to help them with their confidence in reading aloud in the classroom, we have discussed in class that this can be a variety of texts such as newspapers, novels, magazines and even discussing audio books is a great start. We are starting a new raffle for reading in class 2 where the children need to read at least 5 times a week and have a comment recorded in their reading records by a parent (from Thursday to Thursday) to be entered into the raffle for a small prize.



MATHEMATICS Our daily maths session will include twenty minutes of fluency, developing links with known facts. Our focus this term will be looking at fractions and length, area and perimeter. The children will continue to learn and practice their times tables trying to improve their personal best at recalling them quickly using speed tables, so please keep practicing at home as it is extremely important for their maths sessions. Year 4 children will have a statutory times tables test of all times tables up to 12x12 where they will only have 6 seconds to answer each question at the end of the year. Throughout our lessons we will be expecting the children to demonstrate their understanding in a variety of ways such as models, calculations. As well as problem solving the children will be developing their ability to draw and explain their reasoning about their answers and solutions.



SCIENCE Our topic this term is 'States of Matter'. We will extend our knowledge of how objects and materials change depending on the environment they are in. The children have begun to conduct a variety of investigations in science and they will be extending this further by planning and conducting clearly structured investigations and using scientific vocabulary. The children will be encouraged and supported to give reasons, based on evidence from these comparative and fair tests.



TOPIC (HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY) Our topic learning this term is 'WWII'. The children are eager to learn about this topic and we will be beginning our term by looking at the geography we will look at some of the geographical similarities and differences across a UK, European and North/South American including those of landscapes and landmarks and the human geography as well focussing on aspects such as industrialisation. Near the end of term, we will be visiting Yeovil air fleet museum where the children will be immersed in activities relating to WWII and have the opportunity to explore the museum. After half term we will be applying our knowledge of geography to look at the History surrounding WWII looking at some of the causes and the effects it has on people who lived during this period.



ART/DT The children will continue to develop their skills in using watercolours to create a painting reflecting the styles during WWII. In Dt we will be looking at how to use gears and pulleys and design and create our own mechanisms which could have been used to support people during the war.



MUSIC In music we will be looking how music has changed and developed over the years. We will have a specialist music teacher, who works across the Dartmoor Federation, coming in on a Friday. Before half term they will be exploring African cyclic patterns so they will be focussing on the rhythm of music. After half term, class 2 will be exploring musical processes through the Second World War where they will focus on creating composition pieces of music about the experiences of the war and also learning some songs from the era.



PE Our PE lessons take place every **Wednesday** in school. As this day may change please could you ensure that your child comes to school with a **FULL PE kit** (plain white t shirt, navy shorts and trainers) on Monday and takes it home on a Friday. This term we are focussing on co-ordination and footwork and we will be applying these skills to a variety of team sports such as basketball, netball, tag-rugby and football.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION This term in R.E class two will be focussing on Judaism and what family life is like for Jewish people. We will link this with our History also to compare life for Jewish people now and during the war. We will look at some of the festivals that Jewish people celebrate and how they compare to other religions we have learnt about. We will also be exploring our school values through assemblies and our ethos committee.



HOME LEARNING Home learning will be sent home each **FRIDAY** and should be returned to school on **TUESDAY**. If your child completes and hands in their home learning by Tuesday they will receive a gold star. Your child will receive 5 spellings each week on their guided reading 'spelling day' from the year 3/4 or 5/6 spelling list. They need to practice how to spell these words using the range of techniques we have used in class, they also need to put these words in sentences to show an understanding of their meaning. They will also have a maths activity to complete based on the learning we have covered in class that week. It is important that they bring their home learning into school on Tuesday to allow marking of home learning and preparation for next week's activities. We are running home learning club again this term on a Monday and Tuesday break time so if your child needs clarification on a particular aspect they are able to access this support. Children are expected to read at home with their parents/carers daily and parents should then make a comment in their reading records. This will help and support them with ideas and techniques to include in their writing.



Drama We are extremely lucky to have a specialist drama teacher coming in this term who will work with the children to develop their skills which they displayed so brilliantly in their Christmas production. She will work with them to produce a Shakespeare production?



TRIP/ VISITORS We will be planning a range of trips and visitors to come into school this term to enhance the development of our curriculum. Our first visit this term is to Yeovil air fleet museum where we will be experiencing activity sessions about the Battle of Britain and War on the Home Front. We will inform you about other trips or visits nearer the time.

If you have any questions or would like to speak to me about the curriculum, please do not hesitate to book an appointment with Hannah in the office. We would also be grateful if there were any parents who are available to come in a read with the children to help develop their confidence and skills.

Mrs Lee