



Spring Term Newsletter

Year Two: Miss Kitson (Class Teacher), Mrs Swanton (TA)

Dear Parents,

A very Happy New Year to you all! It gives me great pleasure to welcome you and your children back to school for the Spring term. The information below will give you a greater understanding of what the children are being taught in Reading, Writing, Mathematics and Foundation subjects, will help you to support your child at home and will explain Year Two expectations for this term. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Kind Regards,

Miss Kitson

Weekly Dates:

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
		P.E. (Children to wear P.E. kit to school) Homework due (please bring in Homework book or upload on Google Classroom)	P.E. (Children to wear P.E. kit to school) Spelling Test Music Homework set	Library visit (please bring library book each week)

Additional Notes:

Communication

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to place a note in your child's reading record. Alternatively, you may wish to leave a message with the school office via email and this will be passed on to me.

Reading

We are continuing to follow the Read Write Inc. (RWI) reading scheme and children will be assessed in their reading each half term. **Please make sure your child brings their reading book to school each day and reading books will be changed on a Friday.**

In Year Two, we place a huge emphasis on comprehension skills. Whilst reading fluency remains very important, we now encourage you to focus on key comprehension questions once your child has finished their reading book. The skills required for the children to answer these questions will also help them to tackle SATS comprehension questions independently towards the end of the year. You can support your child at home by asking comprehension questions such as:

- Can you tell me what has happened so far?

- What do you predict will happen next?
- What is the meaning of this word?
- Why has the author chosen to use this word?
- How do you think the character is feeling? How do you know?

Phonics, Spelling and Grammar

We will continue to practise spelling and grammar from the Year Two curriculum. Any children who require extra input to consolidate spelling of their Set 2 and 3 sounds take part in additional speed sound and spelling sessions 3 times a week.

Homework

Homework will be set on a **Thursday** which will then be **collected in the following Wednesday**. All homework will be set on Google Classroom. Each child has a homework book and **activities can be completed and stuck into their homework book or uploaded on Google Classroom**.

The homework will be an English and Maths, or a Foundation Subject and 5 to 10 spellings based on our spelling rule of the week, high frequency words and/or Year One and Two 'common exception words' (red words). The tasks set should not exceed 30-40 minutes total. Please do not hesitate to speak to me if you have any concerns regarding the time spent on homework.

Library

We are extremely lucky to have a beautiful and well-stocked library in our school. **We shall visit the library once a week on a Friday**, during which time the children will have the opportunity to choose a book to scan out and take home. The children may keep their library book for one week. They must return their library book upon their next visit to the library.

Class Dojo

We shall continue to use Class Dojo to reward children's positive behaviour choices and hard work in Year Two. Each time a child earns 10 points they will be awarded a 'special sticker' and each time they reach 20 points they will receive a 'Dip in the Dark' from the class prize box.

Assessment

The following assessment will be taking place over the year:

- Teacher Assessment
- RWI Reading Assessment
- SATS – Government Set Test
(There will be separate SATS information communicated this term)
- End of Year Assessment
(At the end of the year, the children will be assessed as Working Towards, Working At, or Working at Greater Depth within the expected standard)

R.E.

In R.E. we will be covering the following theme:

- *The Good News* – we shall be learning about how Jesus can change sadness into joy and to thank Jesus for his help.
- We shall reflect on Jesus' power to help others and what good news means for us.

English Literacy

Through our main text – *Meerkat Mail* – we shall be focusing on the following text types and features in our writing:

- Letter format – date, address, paragraphs
- Book review – compare to link texts/ headings/sub-headings
- Conjunctions (*and, but, or, when, if, that, because*)
- Suffixes (*-ment, -ness, -ful, -less, -ly*)
- Commas in a list
- Apostrophe (for possession, missing letters)
- Reinforce: *capital letters, full stops, question marks, exclamation marks*
- Non-Fiction texts '*Animal factfiles*'
 - Title, introduction
 - Headings/sub-headings
 - Editing and improving our work

P.E.

Invasion games including football, netball, and tag rugby. Focus on agility, balance and stability.

Music

Ukulele Groove'n'Play method combining basic ukulele techniques with challenging singing melodies.

Geography

We shall be comparing the geography of Kenya with the geography of England.

- Name and locate the 7 continents and 5 oceans of the world
- Identify physical geographical features of Kenya and England (lakes, rivers, mountains, beaches)
- Explore human geographical features of Kenya and England (population, city, town, port, shop, transport).
- Compare farming and trade in both countries
- Compare the capital cities of Nairobi and London

Spring 1

Amazing Africa

Handwriting

Cursive handwriting sessions will take place three times a week.

Art

Printing inspired by the work of South African artist, Esther Mahlangu. Experiment with texture, line, colour, and pattern.

Spelling

Year 2 Spelling Appendix; Common Exception Words

DT

Design and make jewellery inspired by patterns and shapes found in Kenyan jewellery.

Computing

Identify algorithms and produce instructions to control a floor 'robot' or on-screen object; refine and de-bug.

History

We will be focussing on key historical skills such as chronology, primary and secondary sources, change and continuity and the impact of significant individuals.

Science

Our topic is *Living Things and their Habitats* and we shall be learning to:

- Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead and have never been alive.
- Understand that where most living things live affects the way they look.
- Describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants and how they depend on each other.

Numeracy

Geometry

- Recognise 2-D and 3-D shapes in different orientations and proportions.
- Count sides and vertices on 2-D shapes.
- Count faces, edges, and vertices on 3-D shapes.
- Create patterns using knowledge of the properties of 3-D shapes.
- Identify and draw lines of symmetry.

Money

- Count money – pounds and pence.
- Compare amounts of money.
- Calculate money and find change.

R.E.

In R.E. we shall be covering the following theme:

- *The Mass* – to know and understand each part of the Mass (the beginning, the Readings, gifts to God, the consecration and Holy Communion).

Geography

Why shall we be exploring where our food comes from and why it matters.

- Use maps and atlases to locate dairy farms in the UK.
- Recognise the process of exporting products such as cheese and importing products such as fruit and vegetables.

History

Significant individuals:
Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole.

- Compare hospitals in the 19th Century with those today.
- Evaluate a range of historical sources.
- Recognise the impact of their work.

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Literacy

Through our main texts – *Peter Rabbit* and *Fantastic Mr Fox* – we shall be focusing on the following features in our writing:

- Narrative text
 - Peter Rabbit (Children to create their own adventure)
 - Conjunctions (*and, but, or, when, if, that, because*)
 - Speech Marks
 - Apostrophe (for possession, missing letters)
- Explanation text
 - How to trap a fox
 - Headings/Sub-headings
 - Rhetorical questions
- Recount 'On the Farm'
 - Editing and improving our work
 - Reinforce: *capital letters, full stops, question marks, exclamation marks*

Spring 2 On the Farm

Handwriting

The children will take part in cursive handwriting sessions three times a week.

Art

Painting sunsets and Silhouettes of animals on the African Savannah

Spelling

Year 2 Spelling Appendix; Common Exception Words

DT

Storytelling through sculpture. Inspired by Lubaina Himid.

Numeracy

Multiplication and Division

- Solve problems involving x and / using materials, arrays, facts and repeated addition
- Recall multiplication and division facts for 2, 5 and 10 and use them to solve simple problems, demonstrating an understanding.
- Recognise odd and even numbers.
- Use strategies such as doubling and halving.

Measurement

- Measure accurately in centimetres and metres.
- Compare lengths and heights.
- Measure in grams and kilograms
- Measure in millilitres and litres.
- Read and record temperatures.
- Use the 4 operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) to calculate measurements.

P.E.

Focus on preventing/ exploiting opponents through creating space as a team within a team game.

Music

Ukulele Groove'n'Play method combining basic ukulele techniques with challenging singing melodies.

Computing

Use logical 'trial and error' in computer simulation. Continue to learn key online safety rules.