



*'Spurring each other on with love'*

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## Year 2 Weekly Newsletter

Dear Parents

We continue our fantastic start to the term in Year Two and the children's eagerness to learn and aspiration to succeed is wonderful to see.

### Reading

Thank you for reading regularly with your child at home. It makes a big difference. Please ensure that your child brings their reading book and/or phonics book home every night to read with an adult at home and that they bring it back each morning to read in school either independently or with an adult. Library books can be changed on any day. Phonics books are changed on Mondays and Thursdays.

### Wet play games

We are still in need of a new set of table top games or puzzles for the children to use during wet playtimes. If you have any used and redundant games at home and would be willing to donate them, we would be most grateful. Ideal sorts of games are jigsaws, pop-up pirate, buckaroo, guess who, top trumps, connect 4, hungry hippos etc.

### Maths

This week, we will continue to develop our understanding of the number system.

- Continue to practise flexible partitioning eg  $52 = 40 + 12$ , or  $20 + 32$
- Practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.
- Use the symbols  $>$   $=$   $<$  to compare numbers.



- Estimate numbers on a number line.
- Practise number bonds to and within 10.

## English

This week, we will continue to explore our text 'Mixed Up Fairy Tales'.

- Learn how to link clauses and sentences using 'and'.
- Investigate regular and irregular past tense verbs.
- Use pronouns in place of proper nouns to avoid repetition.
- Change sentences from the past tense to the present tense by changing the verb tense.
- Continue to develop our cursive handwriting.

## Science

This week, we will continue our topic about What animals need for survival. This includes investigating animal classification. We have looked at mammals, fish and birds and this week we will explore amphibians and reptiles. We will learn what features are common to each group, look at their needs for survival, and explore their diet.

## History

We continue our History topic about 'The Great Fire of London'. This week, we will study the life of Samuel Pepys, investigate excerpt of his diary and learn key facts about him.

## Handwriting

We teach cursive handwriting at Bickleigh Down. We are having a big focus on handwriting at the moment. Please support your child to persevere with the learning of cursive handwriting and with keeping letters evenly sized and on the line.

## Homework

Homework will consist of weekly tasks reflecting and consolidating the class teaching from the week. This will include:

- A short phonics task based on the phonics pattern learnt during the week (spellings)
- Ongoing learning of the Year 2 common exception words, five per week.
- A short Maths, English, Science or topic-based task consolidating the week's learning
- In addition, it is expected that children read for 15 minutes a day outside school hours.

This could be alone or with an adult.

Homework will be set on a Friday and should be returned by the following Thursday. Children should work for half an hour and complete as much as possible. This does not have to be all in



one go. Homework is designed as a consolidation exercise and as an opportunity for demonstrating knowledge and understanding and should not be onerous. A spelling test of 5 words containing the phonics spelling pattern learnt on the previous week along with 5 of the Year Two Common Exception Words will take place each Friday. Scores will be recorded in the Home-school diary.

### General information

- P.E. kits, reading books and home-school diaries will be needed in school every day. PE kits can be left on their peg.
- If the weather is warm this autumn, please remember a hat and sun cream. As the weather becomes colder, please ensure that your child has an appropriate coat.
- As always, it is important to label all your child's belongings with their name.

### Year 2 Information

- A labelled drink bottle for WATER should be brought to school each day.
- Your child will bring home a reading book to read with an adult at home. Your child's reading ability will be assessed regularly during the term and their book level might change. Your child's phonics-based book should be read every day at home and can be changed on Mondays and Thursdays. This is to enable the phonic patterns to be embedded through repeated reading of the text containing the sound.
- Children have an opportunity to change their library book after a book quiz each day/when completed.
- PE lessons will take place on Mondays (outdoors) and Fridays (indoors).
- We love to hear about important events or occasions in the children's lives. We set aside a short amount of 'show and tell time' once a week, usually on a Monday. This is the weekly opportunity to share with the class or bring in special things to show.
- Children will take part in various guided group activities with their teacher or teaching assistant each week.
- Please ensure that important information is communicated to school using the home-school diary. For example, if somebody else is collecting your child from school or if your child has a medical appointment. Please ask your child to make us aware of messages.



Please don't hesitate to speak to us if you have any worries, concerns or questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Handing & Mrs Wall

