



Year 2

Spring Term 2011

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to a busy and exciting term in Year Two.

In Literacy for the first half-term we are going to be studying:

- stories with familiar settings, using a short film as a starting point
- information texts, from research about Space and using what we know about the Great Fire of London

In the second half of term we will be revisiting these genres and looking at:

- traditional stories
- information texts

This term's work in Maths will include:



- continuing sequences
- partitioning 2 and 3-digit numbers
- writing up to 3-digit numbers in words and digits
- mental strategies (number bonds, doubles, near doubles)
- missing number calculations (addition and subtraction)
- finding the difference by counting on
- division by sharing and grouping
- using numberlines for calculations (all four operations)
- word problems (all four operations)
- money: totals and change
- learning x2, x5 and x10 times tables
- fractions of shapes and numbers (quarter, half, three quarters)
- estimating numbers of objects and position on numberlines
- telling the time in analogue and digital (o'clock, half past, quarter past, quarter to)
- symmetry
- properties of 2d and 3d shapes
- measuring and reading capacity
- data handling (block graphs, pictograms, Venn diagrams)
- position and direction: anticlockwise, clockwise, whole turn, half turn, quarter turn

In Science we will be learning all about Forces and Movement and Plants and Animals in the Environment. Our Forces and Movement topic will link with our DT topic Vehicles, in which we will explore different vehicles and their purposes. We will then design and make our own moving vehicles to test and evaluate.



Through these topics we will extend our experimental and investigative skills by:

- turning ideas into questions that can be investigated
- deciding whether a test is fair
- evaluating results

Our exciting topics this term are The Great Fire of London and the Plague. This topic is mainly a history unit where we will find out about the main events of the Fire and Plague. We will be looking at secondary sources including pictures, paintings and Samuel Pepys' diary to find out information about the event and how people reacted during the Fire. We will also be linking our Literacy and ICT work this half term to the Great Fire.



We will continue to use the laptops this term both in ICT and in other subjects. The children will be using history and science websites to find out information about our topics.

In ICT the children will be exploring and developing visual ideas when using a graphics package. They will need to select and use simple tools (pen, brush, fill, and spray) in their mark making, and understand that work can be easily amended and ideas can be tried out without spoiling earlier versions. We will also be using a simple word processing package and focusing on entering, editing and saving work.

In Music we will investigate how sounds are made and changed. This will involve exploring tuned and untuned instruments, and learning that instruments that make sounds in similar ways can be grouped into families.



In Year Two PE is on a Monday and Thursday. In Dance we will be exploring feelings and emotions and incorporating individual, paired and class dance phrases. Gymnastics will focus on body shape and creating sequences of movements and actions.

In RE we will be focusing on Christianity, in particular the New Testament where we will be thinking about what the parables of Jesus mean to us. After half term we will be focusing on Easter.

Homework is given to the children each Thursday. This should be completed and returned to school by the following Tuesday. It is also very important that the children continue to practise their reading at home. We aim to change book bags three times a week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Please can you ensure that any alternative collection arrangements for your child are made known to the class teacher.

Thank you for your continuing support and if you have anything you would like to discuss, please feel free to come and speak to us after school.

Yours sincerely,

K. Gray and A. Walker.