

Year Two Newsletter

Summer Term 2016

Welcome back to the Summer Term! We hope you had a lovely Easter break.
Let's hope for lots of sunshine this term to support our fun activities!

This half term we will continue with our 'Story time' topic and revise lots of concepts and methods in order to suitably prepare your child for their SATS tasks.



Next half term's topic is going to be Jamaica and Pirates. We will be enriching this topic with a 'wow' day on **Tuesday 7th June** where the children will be asked to dress up in colourful Caribbean colours and will take part in exciting 'Jamaican' activities. We are also lucky enough to have a visitor from Jamaica who will teach us some songs and stories.

If you have any books or resources on Jamaica or Pirate items please do send them in but **AFTER** half term.

We will also be organising a pirate trip to Stoke Park. More details will follow next half term. They will be dressing as Pirates for this so prepare your simple costumes (no swords or guns please!) or prepare to walk the plank!



At the end of this term, Year 2 will be doing an end of Key Stage 1 assembly, rather than individual class assemblies. More information to follow.

Reading

Individual reading is crucial for your child's development.

We appreciate that it is difficult to fit everything in, but it really does make a difference to your child's education and it can also boost their confidence.

Please remember to sign, date and comment in their reading diary **daily**. Many thanks.

Library

Please encourage your child to read and return their library books on time. Both classes visit the library on a Tuesday. Please also return any overdue or missing books or £5 per book to your class teacher.



SATs

As you are aware, the children will be completing a number of tasks this term as part of their end of Key Stage 1 Assessments. We aim to keep them as low key as possible and would appreciate your support in this.

There is nothing for you or your child to worry about, however, if you do have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Please try to avoid taking your child out of school this half term.

You may be aware that the Government have changed the way in which the children are assessed. The main changes to the tests this year are:

- A new test of grammar, punctuation and spelling to check your child is reaching the expected standards with the building blocks of writing.
- A new arithmetic test to check your child's ability in basic mathematics.

Your child will take these tests during May at a time determined by the school. They are not strictly timed tests. Most pupils will be unaware they are taking them as teachers will incorporate them into everyday classroom practice.

Teacher assessment is used to report children's attainment and progress to parents. Teachers will use the key stage 1 test results to help them to reach an overall judgement of the standards children have reached in English reading, English writing and mathematics. You will also receive a teacher assessment judgement for science, but there is no science test.

You will receive your child's results by the end of the summer term alongside their annual report.

The link below has further guidance and a short video clip to explain the main changes to assessment.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2016-national-curriculum-tests-for-key-stages-1-and-2-information-for-parents>

Personal circumstances

Please remember to let your class teacher/the office know immediately if your circumstances have changed.

Homework

Our main focus this half term is revision. We will be concentrating on all of the four operations in Maths and linking these to problem solving questions. In English we will be revising spelling patterns, reading comprehension and sentence construction.

Within the homework pack, the Maths and Reading sheets once again are split into two/three ability levels, so please remember that your child may only need to practise one or two sections.

Here are some useful websites that will support our objectives and is an alternative way of learning.

www.ictgames.co.uk - both English and Maths activities

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/magickey/adventures/index.shtml>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize/>

Thank you for your support in your child's education. If you do have any questions or queries please don't hesitate to ask!

From the Year Two Team