

Year One and Two Newsletter



Welcome back!

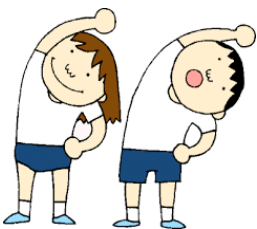
We hope this letter finds you well and that you all enjoyed the Easter break.



Our Team:	Monday - Wednesday	Thursday & Friday
Year 1 & 2 Class	Miss Hope, Miss Gilmour, Mrs Warden, Miss Goulding	Mrs Webb, Miss Gilmour, Mrs Warden, Miss Goulding
Reception and Year 1 class	Miss Horner, Mrs Percival, Miss Goulding, Mrs Blaney	

'Africa'

is our topic this term. We will begin by recapping the continents of the world before moving in closer to the African continent and, more specifically, the village of Mugurameno in Zambia. We will focus on geographical similarities and differences and compare the weather and our daily lives. South African president, Nelson Mandela, and his life-long fight to ensure all people are treated equally will be the focus of our history work. We hope to try some African dancing in PE and taste some traditional African foods in our Design and Technology lessons too. Also this term, in art, we will take a look at some of Van Gogh's famous art-work and practise our painting techniques while recreating his 'Sunflowers' still life. In science, we are investigating life cycles. We have some caterpillars in the classroom and we are already enjoying watching them grow and look forward to releasing butterflies into the wild. After half term we will be investigating a variety of amazing scientists and inventors.



PE

This half term, Year 1 and 2 have Athletics on a Monday afternoon with our external coach. After half term, the focus will be dance (our PE day may change for this but will be communicated to you). The children require plain navy shorts / tracksuit bottoms and a plain navy-blue t-shirt (School logo optional). We suggest keeping PE bags on pegs all week in case there is a change in the hall timetable as, without a PE kit, children are unable to take part in our PE sessions.

Reading

To become confident readers, children should be reading on a daily basis. We encourage everyone to achieve 'Strive for 5' each week (reading at least 5 times) and record this in the yellow Reading Records. We continue to check the children's Reading Record on a weekly basis, on a Monday morning, and award team points and a raffle ticket to those who have read 5 times. (Congratulations to the lucky children whose raffle tickets were picked last term - we hope you are enjoying your new book!) An extra play time on the park next to school is planned for when the whole class achieve 'Strive for 5'.



Please can we take this opportunity to remind you that book bags, containing both the current Read Write Inc. (RWI) book and book bag book, should be brought into school daily. Book change day differs each week and varies from phonic group to phonic group. It is really helpful if reading books are always in school so that they can be changed when needed. Please, if any books turn up during the course of the year that you previously thought had been returned, just drop them into school. This will ensure we have enough books for the next group of children and won't need to buy new sets. Library books are changed on a Monday.

Homework



Our homework is based on our topic and is project focused. Six possible tasks are shared as an activity on Seesaw (and also available to view on the Year 1 and 2 page on our School website) and we ask that the children complete one of these to share with the class week beginning Monday 23rd May. More information is on the homework sheet.

Mathletics → Each week the children will be set two activities on Mathletics. The children are more than welcome to go on and explore other things (we recommend Multiverse!) but they must complete the two set activities first.

Mathletics



TT Rockstars and **Numbots** → Both Year 1 and Year 2 now have access to TT Rockstars – an online programme we use to improve times tables. Year 1 passwords will be sent out next week. Every week, 1 child in years 1-6 receives an award for various achievements on TT Rockstars. In addition, Numbots is still available for use by both the Year 1's and the Year 2's.



Helping your child at home with basic skills can have a massive impact on their education and confidence in class. Just 5 minutes a day, 3-5 times a week, can make a big difference.

Please catch us on the decking or send us a Seesaw message if you require any of your child's login details.

Additional Information



Water Bottles → It is important that your child keeps hydrated as it has a huge impact on their ability to learn. Unfortunately, we do not have access to the water fountain or any cups at the sink so children should bring a water bottle into school with them every day. These should contain water (no juice) and be taken home, washed and re-filled each day.

Head Lice → Unfortunately we still experience head lice in school. If your child has longer hair, we would ask that you tie it up to try to reduce the spread of this pesky beast!



Jewellery → Children are asked not to wear jewellery with the exception of a watch. Staff are not allowed to take earrings out of children's ears so we would ask that you remove them prior to the school day.

Dates for your diary **Class assembly** → Wednesday July 13th at 9.10am.



Class Assembly

Trip → Our Summer trip will be after the half term break – details to follow. We will also be visiting our Forest School later this half term but the date will be weather dependent.

Phonics Screening Check: Week commencing Monday 6th June 2022.

(For all Year 1 children plus some of the Year 2's who did not meet the required threshold in their Year 1 Check)

Statutory Assessments (SATs): Year 2 will be formerly assessed during the month of May.

If you have any queries, concerns or questions, please grab us at the beginning or end of the day, or email the school office and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Best wishes,
The Year 1 and 2 Team

