

Year One and Two Newsletter



Happy new year!

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

Our Team:	Monday - Wednesday	Thursday & Friday
Miss Hope & Mrs Webb's Year 1 & 2 Class	Miss Hope Mrs Cass & Miss Burrow	Mrs Webb Mrs Cass & Miss Burrow
Miss Strong's Year 1 & 2 Class	Miss Strong Mrs McManus & Mrs Blaney	

'London and the Great fire'

is our topic this term. As historians, we will be



looking at the Great Fire of London and who Samuel Pepys is. We will also be comparing what London looks like now and other aspects to 350 years ago. Our geography focus will be 'London' where we will explore which countries the United Kingdom is made up of and their capital cities. We will also be identifying London's geographical features and creating symbols for different iconic buildings. As scientists, we will investigate materials and their properties, while discussing the suitability of the materials for certain jobs. In art, we will be focusing on the work of Stephen Wiltshire

and his amazing landscape and skyline drawings. We will be looking at using our pencils to create texture, pattern and lines of different size and thickness and will use these techniques when drawing our own skyline pictures. In DT, we will be focusing on mechanics including creating working axels in our Fire engine designs along with a winding mechanism to reel in the hose.



PE

This half term, Year 1 and 2 have Gymnastics on a Wednesday afternoon with our external coach. Our PE day may change 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 every 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.

School library books are changed on a Monday. We also attend the public library and will be exchanging books on the following dates: Year 1- 10th February and 31st March

Year 2- 3rd February and 24th March

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 the 13th of February. 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 Multiversel!) but they must complete the two set activities first.

Mathletics



TT Rockstars (Year 2) & Hit the Button → Year 2 have access to TT Rockstars - an online programme we use to improve times tables. Passwords will be sent out next week.

Both year groups can access Hit the Button for free online. (You can also pay for the app on your mobile phone). Any work on the number bonds and halves & doubles sections will help considerably. 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, it is school policy to 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

9:10am.

Open Morning → Wednesday 8th February



Class Assembly

Trip → The date of our trip to the fire station will be confirmed soon. We will also be visiting our Forest School later this half term but the date will be weather dependent. In the meantime, could you ensure your child has waterproofs and wellies ready for when the date is arranged.

Parents' Evenings and Structured Conversations → We will be holding Parents' Evenings the week beginning the 13th of March. Some children require a longer meeting (a Structured Conversation) and these will be the following week. If this is you, we will let you know.

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