

Year One and Two Newsletter

Welcome back!

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

'Australia'

We are excited to focus on Australia during the first half of this term. We will begin by recapping the continents of the world before moving in closer to the Australasian continent and begin to compare and contrast the weather patterns, coastlines and everyday life. In science, we will investigate Australian animals, their habitats and animal adaptations. In art, we will focus on our sculpting techniques and create our own clay Australian animals. In Religious Education, we will try to answer the question 'How do we say thank you for our beautiful world?'

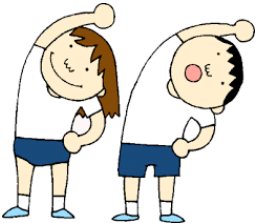


'Changes within Living Memory'

After the half term, as historians, we will investigate changes in living memory. We look forward to inviting you in to share yours and your parents' early memories. We will compare toys, transport, homes and schools. In Design Technology, we will find out how to strengthen structures when we build chairs for our favourite toy. In Religious Education, we will try to answer 'Questions that puzzle us'.

PE

This term we will cover athletics, outdoor games and gymnastics. Lots of this PE will happen outside. As this is weather dependent, all children must have a PE kit in school at all times so we can go out when the sun does. The children require plain navy shorts / tracksuit bottoms and a plain navy-blue t-shirt (School logo optional).



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 22nd May. More information is on the homework sheet.

Mathletics

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.



TT Rockstars → Both Year 1 and Year 2 now have access to TT Rockstars – an online programme we use to improve times tables. The children have ‘battles’ every other week and are excited to be the best class in school so get practicing everyone..

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. Due to wasps, the children are only allowed to take bottles containing plain water onto the playground.

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** → Tuesday 11th July 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 in the second half of the summer term but the date will be weather dependent.

Phonics Screening Check: Week commencing Monday 12th June 2023.

(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