

Year One and Two Newsletter



Welcome back!



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's and 2's	Miss Hope / Mrs Nelson Mrs Cass & Miss Burrow	Mrs Webb / Mrs Nelson Mrs Cass & Miss Burrow
Miss Horner's Year 1's	am	Miss Hope / Mrs Nelson Mrs Cass & Miss Burrow
	pm	Miss Horner Mrs Percival, Miss Burrow & Miss Wilson

'The Poles' is our topic this term. We will begin our geography work by locating and naming the seven continents and five oceans of the world and discussing what happens to the temperature as you move further from the Equator. We will then look specifically at the continent of Antarctica and compare where we live to Port Lockroy; a coastal area on a small island off the Antarctic Peninsula. As historians, we will focus our attention on Earnest Shackleton and Robert Scott and learn about their Antarctic expeditions. In science, as well as exploring animals from the polar regions, we will be finding out about the properties of materials and choosing materials that are fit for purpose. We will be looking at how textiles can be used to create artwork during our art lessons and will work towards a weaving project. In design technology, we will apply some of these skills when we make a puppet.



PE Children will develop the skills of jumping, rolling, balancing and travelling and will create short sequences both on the floor and apparatus in gymnastics this term. In their second PE session, they will develop their understanding of defending and attacking and will learn to throw, roll and strike towards a target. Sessions will take place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with each child participating on two of these days. As our PE day can vary slightly (depending on year group and changes to our hall timetable), we suggest keeping PE bags on pegs all week as, without a PE kit, children are unable to take part. They 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 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 year - 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. 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.

Homework



Our homework is based on our topic and is project focused. Six possible tasks are shared as an activity on Seesaw (also available to view on the Year 1 and 2 page on our School website) and we ask that children complete one of these to share with the class week beginning Monday 5th February. More information is on the homework sheet.

Mathletics → Each week the children will be set two activities on Mathletics. They 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 (Year 2) & Hit the Button (Year 1 & 2) → Year 2 have access to TT Rockstars - an online programme we use to improve times tables. Login details are stuck to the inside cover of the children's yellow reading journals. Year 1 have their logins but will not be activated on the system until the summer term when we have covered multiplication within our maths sessions. 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.



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 a 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



Open Afternoon → Tuesday March 19th 2:30pm.

Class Assembly



Trip → The date of our trip will be confirmed soon. We will also be visiting our Forest School towards the end of the 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.

If you have any queries, concerns or questions, please catch us on the decking 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