

Year One and Two Newsletter



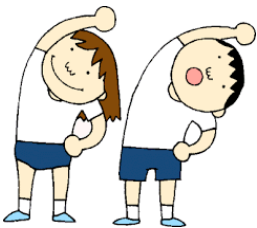
Welcome back!

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, Mrs Cass Mrs Nelson, Miss Burrows	Miss Hope, Mrs Cass, Mrs Warden Mrs Nelson, Miss Burrows
Reception and Year 1 class	Miss Horner and Mrs Percival	

'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. Also this term, we will take a look at some of Orla Keily's famous print-work and practise our printing techniques. 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 healthy lifestyles including designing a healthy wrap in DT.



PE This half term, Year 1 and 2 are learning net and wall games in one of our PE sessions; the second session Year 1 and 2 split with half going to Forest school with Miss Horner for 3 weeks, whilst the others have a PE session and then swapping for a further 3 weeks. After half term, the focus will be athletics and dance. 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 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 focussed. 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.



TT Rockstars (Year 2) & Hit the Button (Year 1 & 2) → Year 2 already 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 (inside their yellow reading books) and are activated on the system. 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. Their bottle should contain water (no juice) and be taken home, washed and re-filled each day. In the summer, as it gets warmer, the children are allowed to take their bottles outside during breaks. Only water is allowed outside as juice attracts wasps.

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

Class assembly → Tuesday July 9th at 9.10am.

Trip → Our Summer trip will be after the half term break - details to follow.

Year 2 Residential Meeting → 23rd of May at 3.20pm in the Year 1 & 2 classroom

Year 2 Residential → Wednesday 12th of June - Thursday 13th of June

Phonics Screening Check: Week commencing Monday 10th 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)



Best wishes,
The Year 1 and 2 Team