

# *Year 2 Newsletter*

## **Spring Term 2018**

St Mark's CofE Primary School, Basingstoke

### Happy New Year

Welcome back to a new term, the children have settled quickly and are enjoying finding out about "Our Wonderful World" our current topic.



Next half term, our topic will be "Important People" where we will find out more about British Queens.

### Morning Routines

We would like to encourage the children's independence in the mornings to pass on messages from home to their teachers, change reading books and start their morning activity.

Therefore we ask you to say goodbye at the door and leave your child to organise themselves for the day ahead.

### Interclass Challenge

In Autumn 1 our interclass challenge was a bean bag aiming competition, Well done to 2S who won this challenge.

Autumn 2 we had a 'Christmas Cracker' maths challenge to see who could get the most correct answers in just 2 minutes. This was a very close result with 2R winning.





# Spring 1 – Our Wonderful World



English We will begin by exploring adventure stories and considering interesting settings using the story of Traction Man. We will think about our choice of adjectives and begin to experiment with similes. We will also use Charlie and the Chocolate factory and The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe as texts to explore settings and characters and will be creating our own characters.

## Religious Education

In the first half term in RE, children will explore the idea of God and consider the Jewish and Christian idea of God. They will be able to simply describe how Christians and Jews see God and communicate their own ideas.



Maths This half term we are looking at the relationship between addition and subtraction. We will name and describe the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and we will also look at totalling money.

## Science

Health and Growth is our main theme. The children will learn about food groups and explore how different sorts of foods impact on our health. We will look at the need for regular exercise, drinking plenty of water and what a healthy balanced diet consists of.



Computing We will be following instructions to program Beebots and Roamers to complete simple routes. We will write Algorithms and then debug to complete the correct route.

PSHE In PSHE, we will make links with learning in Science in our topic "My Body is Important". We will think about the importance of exercise, a balanced diet and safety when crossing the road.

Design and Technology This will be linked to our Science topic. We will give the children the opportunity to design their own healthy flapjack. They will use their knowledge of healthy eating and a balanced diet.

PE We continue with Activate each day for 10 mins. In Gymnastics, each class will be working with Planet Education. In Games, we will be looking at ball skills preparing us for Netball based activities.

Music We will be linking our music with Geography and exploring sounds of our land.

Geography In Geography, we will be comparing and contrasting our locality with Santrokofi in Africa.



## Spring 2 – Important People



English In the second half term in English we will be writing information text linked with our healthy eating topic and geography topic. We will also be reading other Roald Dahl books to support our persuasive writing and book reviews. We will continue to develop our understanding of grammar and how this can be used to develop our writing skills. As we go through the term, we will also be editing like real writers and working to make improvements to our writing.

Religious Education In Spring 2 in RE, children will consider the concept of Salvation and ask 'Why is Easter important to Christians?' They will consider different points in the Easter story and will be able to describe in simple terms why Christians value the idea of Easter and Salvation.

Maths We will be solving addition and subtraction problems using apparatus and continuing to use an unstructured number line. We will also use arrays to solve times and division problems.

History We will begin to understand the role of a monarch, the qualities needed to be a good monarch and compare the lives of British Queens.



### Art

In Art, we will explore how patterns repeat. Children will identify and describe the patterns they can see and make their own patterns using different techniques.

### Science

Our focus for this half term will be 'Growth'. We will be considering how animals change as they grow with a particular focus on the butterfly and frog life cycles. In terms of human growth we will consider the needs of babies and make comparisons with what we are able to do now. There will be opportunities to record and present information in different ways.

PSHE Changing Friendships is our theme this half term. We will consider the importance of friendships and the qualities of a good friend.

PE In Dance, we will be looking at Tudor dance and complete a class dance to share with others. In Games we will continue with ball skills and imputing these into different games.

Music This half term we will be singing and playing instruments focussing on pitch.

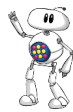
Computing Children will begin to look at data bases. We will look at how to sort different objects into categories.

## Other information.

### Homework

We will continue to issue maths home work every other week. This might be a worksheet or an activity on My Maths.

We ask you to read regularly with your child and encourage them to independently change their books as required.



### Naming Clothing

Please could we ask you to check all the items of your child's clothing are named, including all PE kit, coats, hats and scarves. We are getting an increasing amount that is not named which we would like to return to the rightful owner.

### Current timetables

Our PE days for this half term are: Tuesday and Thursday for 2R and Wednesday and Thursday for 2B and 2S. Please provide both indoor and outdoor PE kit on a Monday to stay in school all week. If your child has their ears pierced please provide earring tape if they cannot take their earrings out. Our library day is every other Thursday.



These times and days may vary occasionally due to curriculum changes.

### And a final reminder ....

If, for whatever reason, your child is unable to attend school, please remember that simple activities can be done at home to keep your child's skills sharp and continue their enjoyment of learning. For example: reading, writing sentences, keeping a diary, learning and practising times tables (2x, 5x, 10x) or researching topic information. Further guidance can be found in your child's Home Learning Log.