

Year 2 Newsletter

Spring Term 2019

St Mark's CofE Primary School, Basingstoke

Happy New Year

Welcome back to a new term, the children have settled quickly and are enjoying researching our new topic "Near and Far".



Next half term, our topic will be "Bow and Curtsey" 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 2R who won this challenge.

In Autumn 2 we had a relay challenge where we had to complete several activities and gain points for each activity. The team with the most points and winning was 2B.





Spring 1 – Near and Far



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' as a text to explore characters and will be inventing our own characters.

Religious Education

In the first half term, children will be thinking why it is important to remember things by exploring the story of Passover and how it helps Jews to remember.



Maths We start the half term continuing our work on multiplication and division, looking in particular at the relationship between the two. We will move onto understanding fractions and then 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.

Geography

In Geography, we will be comparing and contrasting our locality with Santrokofi in Africa. We will use 'Meerkat Mail' as our starting point for our learning. We will investigate these localities with music, artefacts, maps, photographs and books.



Design and Technology

This will be linked to our Science topic. We will give the children the opportunity to design their own balanced flapjack. They will use their knowledge of healthy eating to help choose additional ingredients.

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

PE

In Games, the children will complete ball skills with Planet Education. In Dance we will be using African music to create our own dances.



Spring 2 – Bow and Curtsey



English In the second half term, 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, 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 During Spring 2 we will look at telling the time to the nearest 5 minute intervals. We will name 2D and 3D shapes and learn to recognise them by their properties. We will also recap addition and subtraction.

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.



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.

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 drawing techniques.

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 using these in different games.

Music This half term we will be singing and playing instruments focusing 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 be sending home maths and reading comprehensions every other week.

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 Wednesday. 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 Friday.



These times and days may vary occasionally due to the 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.