

Year 2 Newsletter



Spring 2

Our learning this half term:

This half term we will be learning all about the Great Fire of London and the life of Samuel Pepys in **History**. This unit will help the children to develop an understanding of the ways in which we can find out about the past. The children will have the opportunity to increase their awareness of the past by learning about what London was like in the 17th century. They will compare life in the 17th century to the present day and consider how some problems, such as the lack of an organised fire brigade and the type of buildings, caused the fire to spread. The children will focus on how and why some things changed as a result of the fire, in order to be safer.

In **science**, we will be learning about a variety of habitats and the plants and animals that live there. They will learn to tell the difference between things that are living, dead and things that have never been alive. They will make observations of a local habitat and the creatures that live there, investigating conditions in local microhabitats and how they affect the minibeasts found within them. This unit allows children to research a range of global habitats and how the living things that live there are suited to their environments, and they will also be introduced to the idea of dependency between plant and animal species.

In **writing**, we will be discovering how to write a losing/finding tale. Within this genre they will be learning how to use conjunctions correctly and effectively. They will also be looking at how to use speech within a narrative. They will learn how to punctuate it correctly as well as how to use it to enhance their writing.

The focus in **maths** this half term is measurement. The children will be learning how to measure using centimetres and metres as well as comparing and ordering different lengths and heights. We will then be moving onto fractions where we will be finding a half, quarter and third of a whole.

Supporting learning at home

Reading:

Every child needs to read for at least 15 minutes every day and to talk to an adult about what they have read. Please fill in their reading diary to record their reading each week. It is also really important at this age that you find the time to read stories to your child to help them develop a pleasure for reading and a love for books.

Spelling:

There is no requirement to learn weekly spellings at home as we will be covering them as a class in school. If you do wish to do additional practice at home, or would like to be aware of the spellings we're focusing on, you can find them listed below:

Week 1 – **'ey' saying /ee/** (*key, monkey, donkey, honey, money, chimney, valley, turkey*)

Week 2 – **Adding -er, -est and -y to CVCC and CVC words** (*longer, warmer, coldest, windy, wetter, hottest, funny, sunny*)

Week 3 – **Contractions** (*can't, I've, you'll, didn't, we'd, couldn't, should've, could've*)

Week 4 – **'war' saying /wor/ and 'wor' saying /wur/** (*war, ward, warm, towards, world, worst, work, worth*)

Week 5 – **Adding suffixes -ment and -ness to words** (*enjoyment, payment, excitement, movement, fairness, kindness, tidiness, happiness*)

Maths:

This term, the children will be doing weekly multiplication and division tests every Friday (x2, x5, x10, x3).

P.E:

Our P.E slot this term will be every **Thursday**. Please ensure your child brings their kit into school (a white top, navy jumper and navy shorts or joggers). PE kit needs to stay in school for the duration of the half term. If your child wears earrings, please ensure they are able to take them out and put them back in independently or please leave earrings out on PE days. Those who have recently had them pierced, please provide tape for them to cover them with. **Please name ALL items sent to school**



Forest School - Group B will be taking part in Forest School until the end of term. Please ensure the children have waterproof clothing and shoes every Wednesday.



Recommended Reads from the Children

