



Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter

September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another school year. We hope that you and your families have had a relaxing and fun break.

This newsletter will give you information about some of the things that your child will be learning about during this half term. We hope that you find it helpful but please do not hesitate to ask throughout the year if you ever have any concerns or questions.

Religion Topic

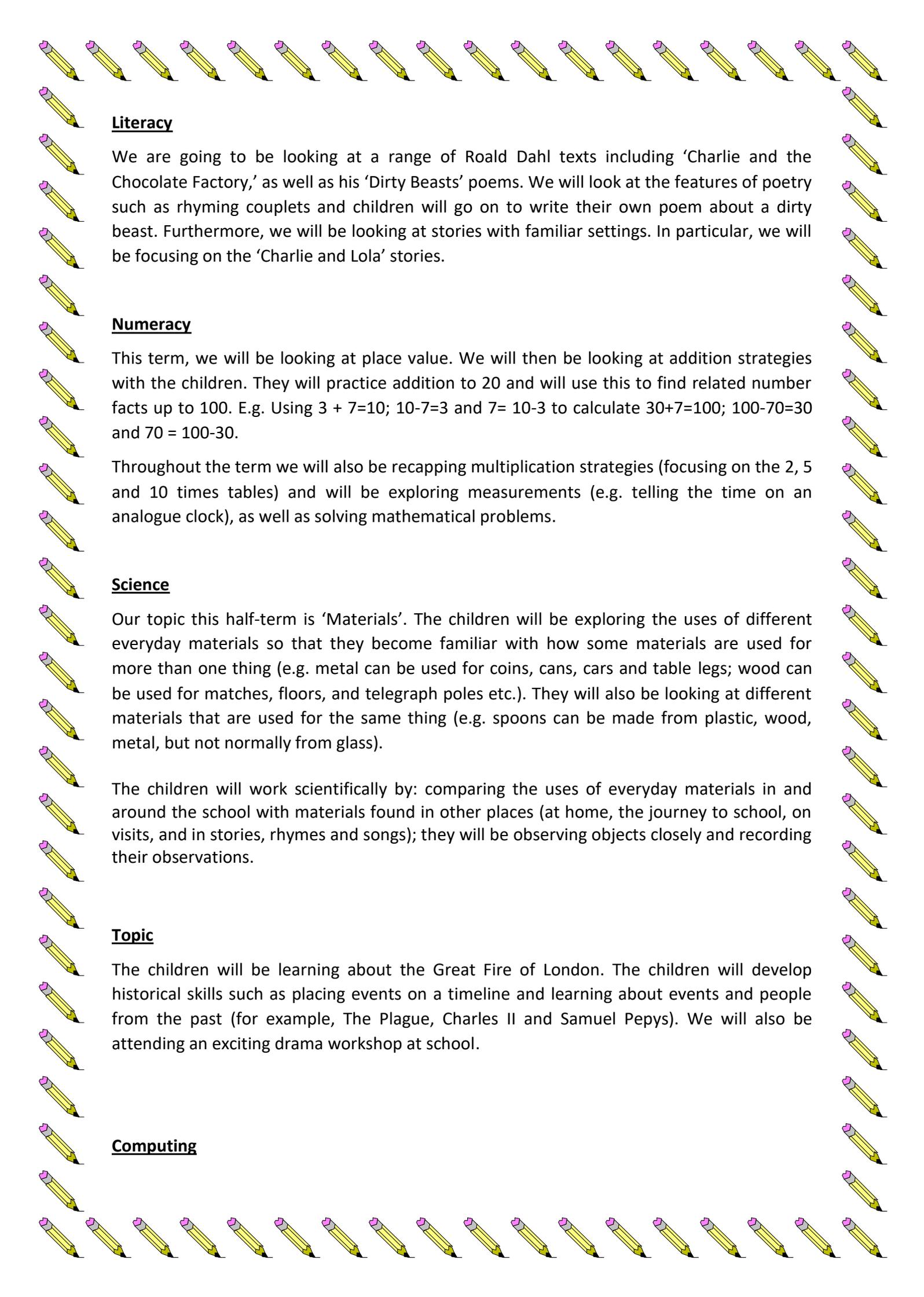
Our first topic is called, 'In the Beginning'. We will be focusing on the creation story in Genesis 1. Children will then look at the Catholic beliefs which can be derived from this text. We will also be looking at why people pray the Psalms and how Psalms are used as a form of prayer ritual by both Jews and Christians today.

Key vocabulary includes:

- Genesis
- Myth
- Yahweh
- Yahwist
- Priestly
- Psalm
- Liturgy
- Prayer

Reading

Each child has been given a reading book and we hope that you have had a chance to read the notes on the inside of the reading record. We would like the children to read a few pages of their book each night and complete one of the reading activities. Please use the reading record to communicate how your child is getting on and any information that you feel we should know. We will be making comments in this book as a way of communicating with you about the progress of your child's reading.



Literacy

We are going to be looking at a range of Roald Dahl texts including 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,' as well as his 'Dirty Beasts' poems. We will look at the features of poetry such as rhyming couplets and children will go on to write their own poem about a dirty beast. Furthermore, we will be looking at stories with familiar settings. In particular, we will be focusing on the 'Charlie and Lola' stories.

Numeracy

This term, we will be looking at place value. We will then be looking at addition strategies with the children. They will practice addition to 20 and will use this to find related number facts up to 100. E.g. Using $3 + 7 = 10$; $10 - 7 = 3$ and $7 = 10 - 3$ to calculate $30 + 7 = 100$; $100 - 70 = 30$ and $70 = 100 - 30$.

Throughout the term we will also be recapping multiplication strategies (focusing on the 2, 5 and 10 times tables) and will be exploring measurements (e.g. telling the time on an analogue clock), as well as solving mathematical problems.

Science

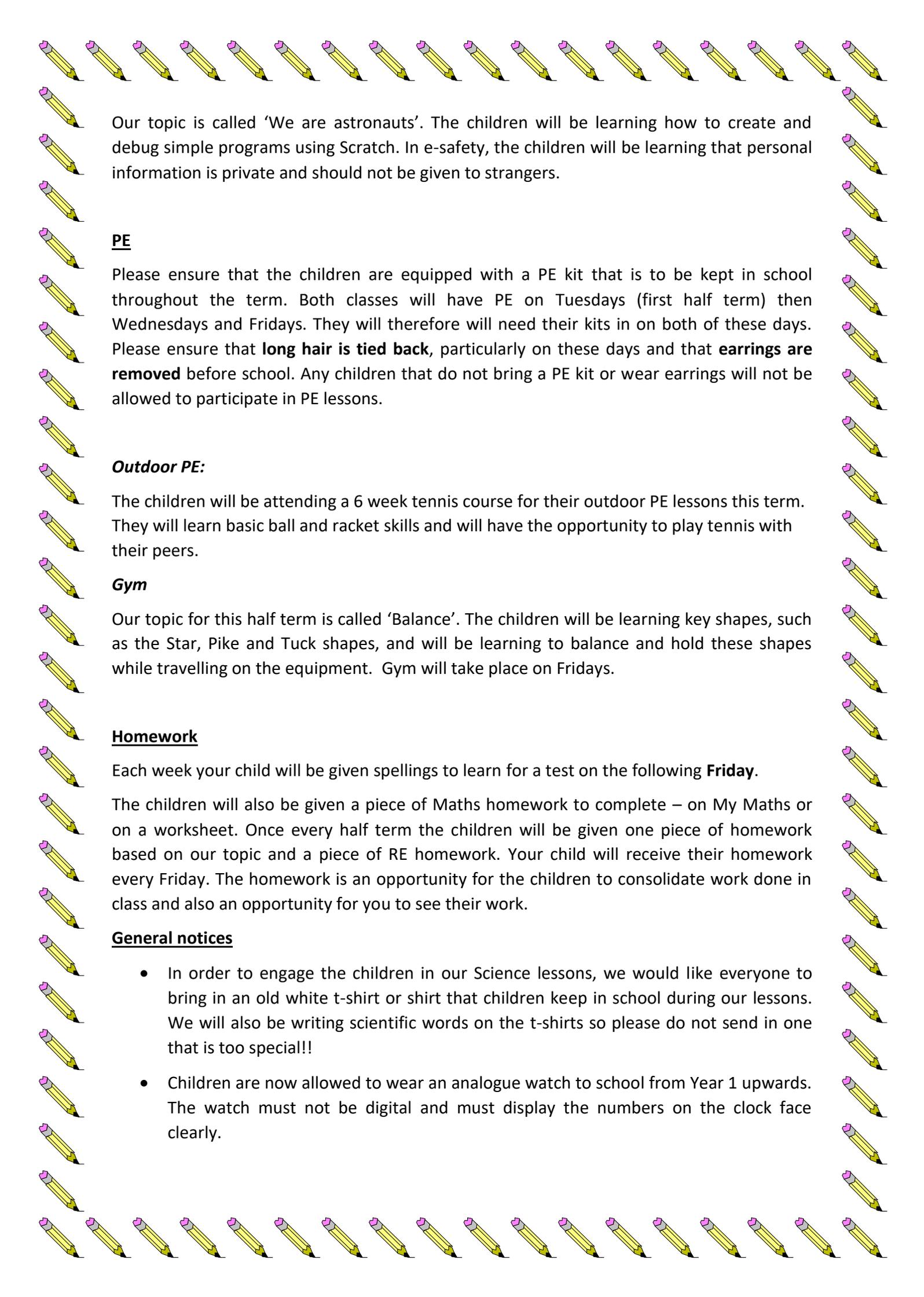
Our topic this half-term is 'Materials'. The children will be exploring the uses of different everyday materials so that they become familiar with how some materials are used for more than one thing (e.g. metal can be used for coins, cans, cars and table legs; wood can be used for matches, floors, and telegraph poles etc.). They will also be looking at different materials that are used for the same thing (e.g. spoons can be made from plastic, wood, metal, but not normally from glass).

The children will work scientifically by: comparing the uses of everyday materials in and around the school with materials found in other places (at home, the journey to school, on visits, and in stories, rhymes and songs); they will be observing objects closely and recording their observations.

Topic

The children will be learning about the Great Fire of London. The children will develop historical skills such as placing events on a timeline and learning about events and people from the past (for example, The Plague, Charles II and Samuel Pepys). We will also be attending an exciting drama workshop at school.

Computing



Our topic is called 'We are astronauts'. The children will be learning how to create and debug simple programs using Scratch. In e-safety, the children will be learning that personal information is private and should not be given to strangers.

PE

Please ensure that the children are equipped with a PE kit that is to be kept in school throughout the term. Both classes will have PE on Tuesdays (first half term) then Wednesdays and Fridays. They will therefore will need their kits in on both of these days. Please ensure that **long hair is tied back**, particularly on these days and that **earrings are removed** before school. Any children that do not bring a PE kit or wear earrings will not be allowed to participate in PE lessons.

Outdoor PE:

The children will be attending a 6 week tennis course for their outdoor PE lessons this term. They will learn basic ball and racket skills and will have the opportunity to play tennis with their peers.

Gym

Our topic for this half term is called 'Balance'. The children will be learning key shapes, such as the Star, Pike and Tuck shapes, and will be learning to balance and hold these shapes while travelling on the equipment. Gym will take place on Fridays.

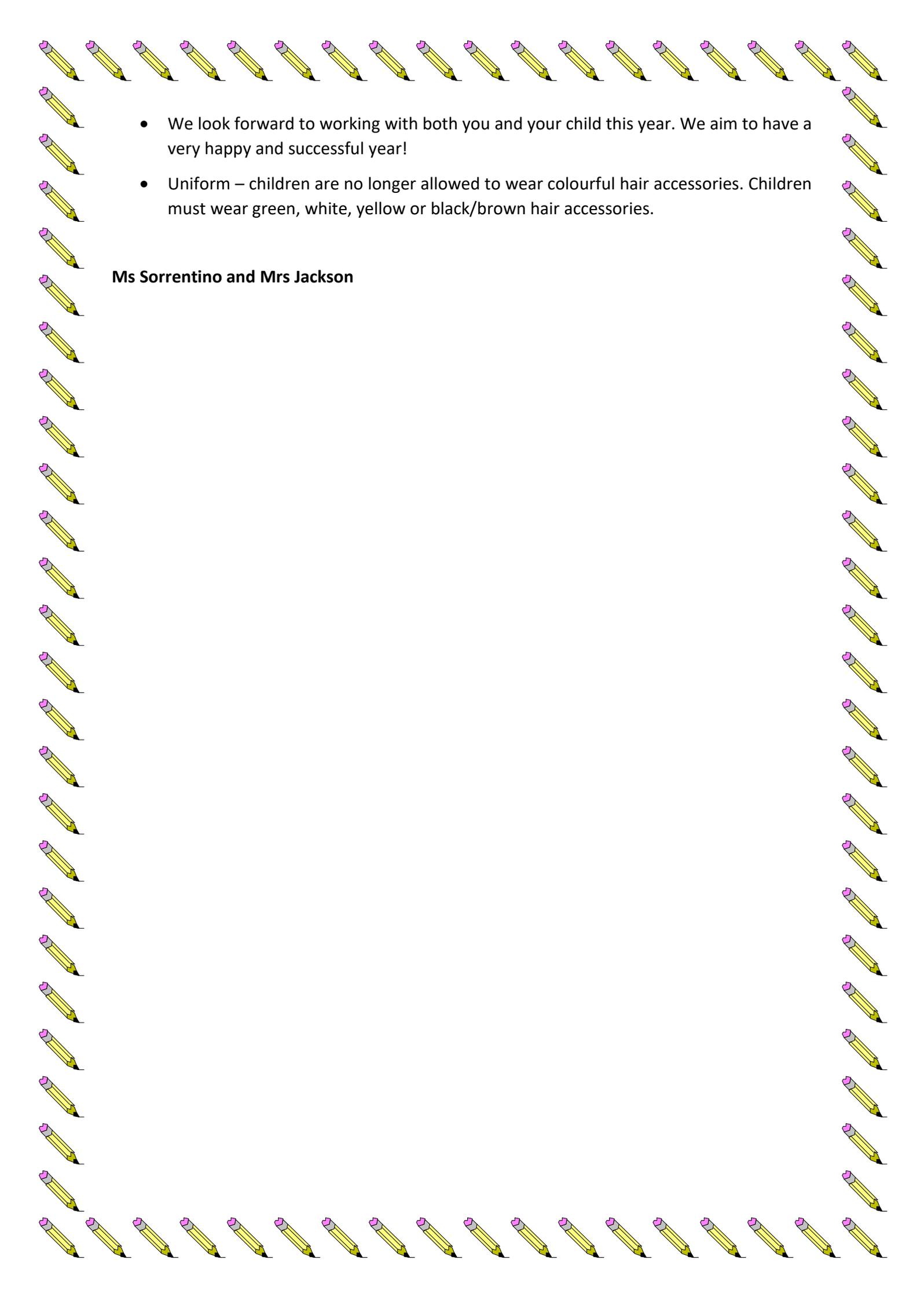
Homework

Each week your child will be given spellings to learn for a test on the following **Friday**.

The children will also be given a piece of Maths homework to complete – on My Maths or on a worksheet. Once every half term the children will be given one piece of homework based on our topic and a piece of RE homework. Your child will receive their homework every Friday. The homework is an opportunity for the children to consolidate work done in class and also an opportunity for you to see their work.

General notices

- In order to engage the children in our Science lessons, we would like everyone to bring in an old white t-shirt or shirt that children keep in school during our lessons. We will also be writing scientific words on the t-shirts so please do not send in one that is too special!!
- Children are now allowed to wear an analogue watch to school from Year 1 upwards. The watch must not be digital and must display the numbers on the clock face clearly.

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- We look forward to working with both you and your child this year. We aim to have a very happy and successful year!
 - Uniform – children are no longer allowed to wear colourful hair accessories. Children must wear green, white, yellow or black/brown hair accessories.

Ms Sorrentino and Mrs Jackson