

Year 2 Newsletter.

28th February 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term. We hope you had a lovely break. This newsletter will give you information about some of the things that your child will be learning about during this half term.

Religion Topic

From Lent to Easter. Children will be learning about how to prepare for Lent and understand the importance of Lenten rituals. We will be focusing on Matthew's Gospel, which describes the events of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

- Key vocabulary: *Passion, liturgy, service, sacrifice, celebration, give alms, pray, fast, procession, adoration, consecration, antiphon, Passover, chasuble, Blessed Sacrament.*

Reading

We are continuing to support the children in developing reading strategies and the important skill of reading with comprehension. We would like to stress again that we do not ask the children to read more than a few pages a night. It is more beneficial to choose one of the reading activities alongside reading every evening. Please use the reading record to communicate how your child is getting on and any information that you feel we should know. When we feel it is appropriate for your child to move to another band we will inform you through the reading record. Some useful phonics websites include:

- <http://www.galacticphonics.com/>
- <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/BuriedTreasure2.html>
- <http://www.mrthorne.com/>
- <http://www.roythezebra.com/>

English

In our English lessons this half term the children will be continuing our Julia Donaldson topic. We will be focusing on reading comprehension and retelling the stories. We will also be using Julia Donaldson's stories to help us write our own stories.

We will be starting a new topic, 'Traditional Tales.' Throughout this topic, we will be focusing on the features of traditional tales and how to retell a story. We will also continue to teach grammar rules. Children will be reminded of the different word types and will practise highlighting nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs in a piece of writing.

Maths

In Maths we will be continuing to work on addition and subtraction as well as multiplication and division strategies with the children. We will continue to focus on sharpening mental arithmetic skills and developing children's ability to find an answer without the need for a 100 Grid Square. We are also working with the children to recall the double and half of a number. We will also be recapping our knowledge of place value – tens and ones and starting to present data in different types of graphs.

You could help your child with numeracy skills by the following:

- Recalling multiplication facts for the 2, 5 and ten times tables. We would expect the children to know their two, five and ten times tables by the end of the year, then move onto their threes and fours. The children need to learn these out of order.
- Learning to tell the time in analogue and digital.
- Finding halves and quarters of numbers and shapes.
- Adding and subtracting multiples of 10 from 2 and 3 digit numbers mentally.

E.g. $34+50$ $75-30$ $123+40$ $278-40$

Computing

Our topic this term is called 'We are Photographers'. The children will take digital photos using the IPADS and digital cameras and they will then learn how to edit and save their images.

Topic

Our topic this term will be 'Inspirational People'. The children will get to choose some of the children they think are inspirational to learn about. We will be learning about a wide range of people from history and how they impacted the world. We will study musicians, artists, sportsmen/women and key historical figures.

Science

We will begin our new topic, 'Living things and their habitats.' We will be focusing on the variety of habitats which animals can live in and how animals have adapted to survive in their environment. We will explore and compare the differences between things that are

living, dead, and things that have never been alive. We will identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats. We will describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain.

PE

Games

In games we will be looking at 'Sending and Receiving Skills. In this unit, children improve and apply their basic skills, in particular they focus on different ways of hitting and striking the ball. They play games that demand simple choices and decisions on how to use space to avoid opponents, keep the ball and score points.

This term our games lessons will be on a Tuesday – PLEASE make sure your child removes their earrings before school

Gym

Our new topic is called 'High and Low'. The children will be using the PE apparatus to create simple sequences. They will be reminded how to lift and carry the apparatus correctly and safely. The children will also be working on improving the quality of their gymnastic actions, with the aim of developing flow and varying speed.

Homework

We will be continuing the same procedure for homework. Your child will receive their homework on Friday. The children will have their spelling test every Friday. We would like the children to complete the work independently and discuss it with you. If your child finds any part of the homework difficult please make a note in their reading record.

Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Mrs Jackson and Ms Sorrentino