

Year 2 Newsletter.

Dear Parents,

We hope that you and your families have had an enjoyable Christmas break. This newsletter will give you information about some of the things that your child will be learning about during this next 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.

RE



Our topic this half term is 'From Ur to the Promised Land'. Our learning will commence by exploring the Feast of the Epiphany. We will then learn about the story of Noah and the significance of the covenant (promise) God made to Noah. Next, we will progress to learning about the story of Moses - From Birth to the Promised Land. We will learn about what was happening before Moses was born; what happened to Moses when he was born and also some details about what Moses did when he was older. Our attention will then move to an understanding of the significant women in Moses' life including his mother Jochebed and his sister Miriam. We will explore with the children that without these significant women, Moses wouldn't have been able to free the Israelites from oppression.

Key words:

covenant, rainbow, Israelites, Egyptians, oppressed, freedom, slaves, Promised Land (Israel), heroes and Book of Exodus

English

The children will be following the Read Write Inc. reading and writing scheme. They will be assessed and placed into appropriate groups for this. Some children may be ready to begin the Power of Reading scheme where they will focus on the text 'The Robot and the Bluebird' by David Lucas.



Maths

This half term we will be concluding our '**Addition and Subtraction**' learning. We will be comparing number sentences and solving missing number problems. We will then progress to a focus on '**Shape**'. We will begin by recognising 2-D and 3-D shapes. This will lead us to counting the sides and vertices of 2-D shapes. From this, we will learn about lines of symmetry and we will be able to sort 2-D shapes. Additionally, we will learn how to count the faces, edges and vertices of 3-D shapes. Our learning will conclude by making patterns with 2-D and 3-D shapes. Next, our Maths learning will be focused on '**Money**'. We will be counting money in pence and pounds (both coins and notes). We will be choosing notes and coins to represent a certain value and we will challenge ourselves to think of different ways we can make the same amount of money. This will progress to comparing amounts of money. Then, we will consider how much change we get if we spend a certain amount of money. Finally, we will challenge ourselves to answer two-step money problems.

Science

Our topic for this half term is Animals including humans. In this topic we will look at how animals change as they grow up and be introduced to the life cycles of various animals, including humans. We will learn about what an animal needs to survive and how we can apply this to our everyday lives. Moving onto the healthy lifestyles of humans, we will be learning about the importance of exercise, healthy eating and hygiene.

History

In our first week back to school, we will finish our history topic **Victorian Inventions**. We will learn about the invention of cameras and trains - their development and their significance.

Next, we will start our new topic **Explorers**. We will learn what a pioneer is, examples of pioneers and then learn about 3 explorers - Christopher Columbus, Matthew Henson and Amelia Earhart. After learning about these significant individuals, we will then look at answering our big question: What was the same and what was different about the pioneers Christopher Columbus, Amelia Earhart and Matthew Henson?

PE

Indoor PE (continued from last term)- Dance - Communicating different moods, feelings and ideas. Children will perform body actions with control (set counts) and coordination. They will choose movements with different dynamic qualities to make a dance phrase that expresses an idea, mood or feeling. They will engage with a partner or group to perform short dances, showing an understanding of expressive qualities of the dance style. They will use some simple dance vocabulary to describe and interpret dance, describing how dancing affects their body.

Indoor PE - Gymnastics - Parts High and Low - Children will create simple sequences of at least four 'unlike' actions on the floor e.g. a roll, jump, travel and a balance. They will improve the quality of their gymnastic actions, e.g. stretching fingers and pointing toes and plan and perform sequences of contrasting actions, with the aim of developing flow and varying speed.



Updated PE days (up to February half term):

2Y - Monday and Friday

2G - Tuesday and Friday

Art:

Sculpture and 3D - Clay houses

This half term we will be developing our understanding of sculpture to construct and model simple forms. We will begin to use hands and tools when cutting, shaping and joining paper, card and malleable materials. We will develop basic skills for shaping and joining clay, including exploring surface texture.

ICT

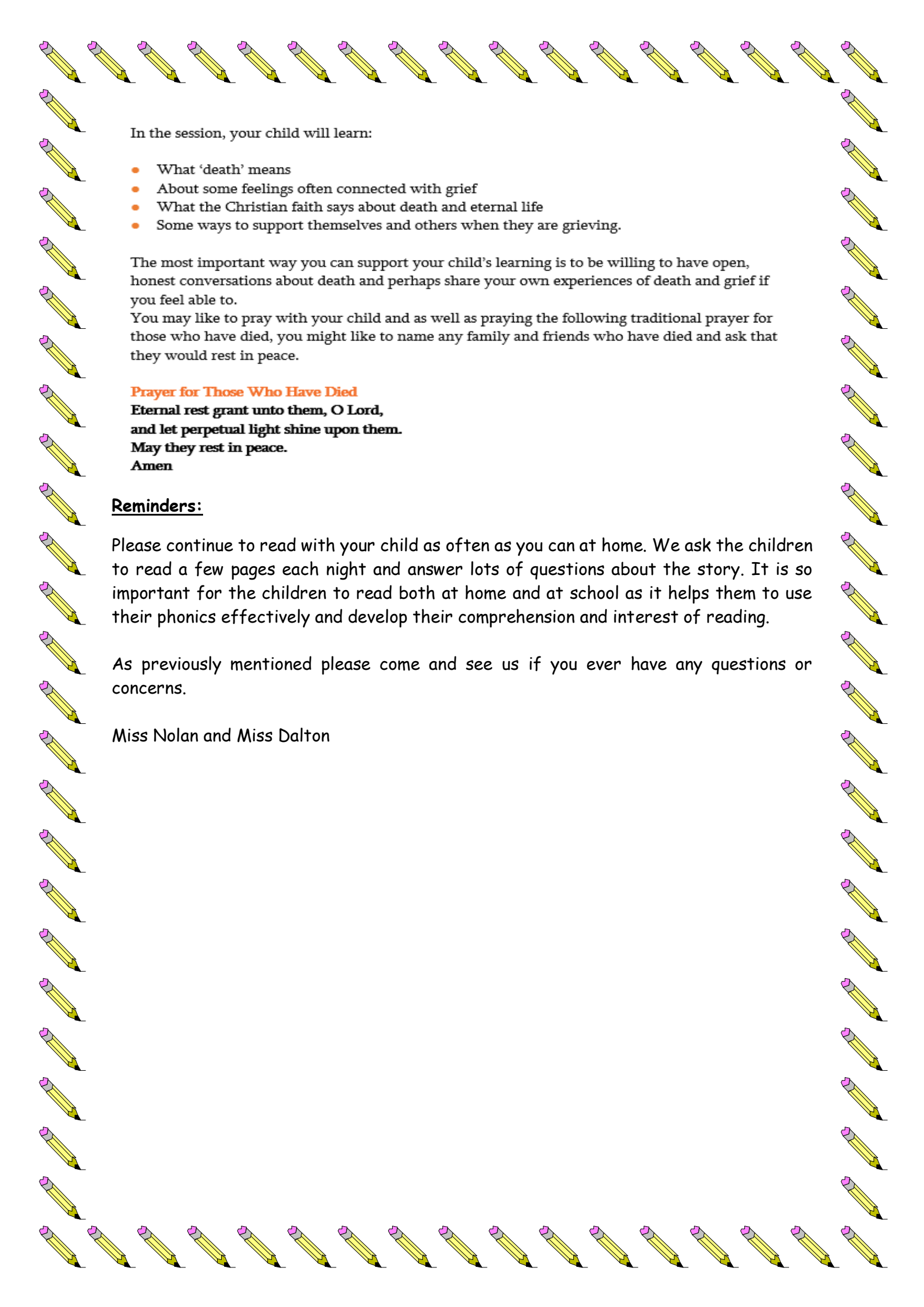
This half term we will be completing the topic 'We are Photographers'. We will be taking, selecting and editing digital images using iPads and also in the ICT suite.

Music

Music will be taught each week by Mr Charles-Nelson. This half term, the focus is on 'Taking off: pitch'

RHE

In RHE this half term, the focus is on feelings. The children will recognise that we all have different feelings and at different times too. As a class, we will be partaking in activities that will assist the children with articulating their feelings and how other people's feelings may differ to theirs. Next, the children will be learning about life cycles. We will learn about how God created us to follow the cycle of love and He loves us at every stage of it. The children will learn about the specifics of the human life cycle, including the end of life. Please see further detail below about the content of the lesson about the end of life. We will inform you on Google Classroom when this lesson is taking place. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask us. Additionally, if you feel that your child will struggle with this then please do let us know as soon as possible.



In the session, your child will learn:

- What 'death' means
- About some feelings often connected with grief
- What the Christian faith says about death and eternal life
- Some ways to support themselves and others when they are grieving.

The most important way you can support your child's learning is to be willing to have open, honest conversations about death and perhaps share your own experiences of death and grief if you feel able to.

You may like to pray with your child and as well as praying the following traditional prayer for those who have died, you might like to name any family and friends who have died and ask that they would rest in peace.

Prayer for Those Who Have Died

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.
Amen**

Reminders:

Please continue to read with your child as often as you can at home. We ask the children to read a few pages each night and answer lots of questions about the story. It is so important for the children to read both at home and at school as it helps them to use their phonics effectively and develop their comprehension and interest of reading.

As previously mentioned please come and see us if you ever have any questions or concerns.

Miss Nolan and Miss Dalton