

September 2018

Dear Year 2 Parents / Carers,

This newsletter will provide you with useful information about work that your child will be covering this half term. Can we please remind you how important it is for your child to be in school every day, on time in the correct uniform. School starts at 8:50, although children need to be lined up in the playground by 8:45 when teachers come to meet them. The benchmark for acceptable attendance to 90% which equates to only 3 absences each half term before your child's attendance becomes an issue. Obviously genuine illness cannot be helped, however, if you think your child can manage at school it is best to send them in and let us make the decision.

Mathematics

This half term the children will be focusing on counting, reading, writing and understanding number. They will be exploring number patterns, odd and even numbers and solving different mathematical word problems. The children will focus on place value and how to partition numbers into tens and ones and also finding different combinations to make the same number. The expectation by the end of this half term, is that the children will know all of their 2, 5 and 10 times tables and use the number facts to solve word problems so please work on these with your child at home as often as you can. We will continue the weekly times tables tests that the children carried out in Year 1, these will be every Friday.

English

As part of our 'Me and My School' topic, we will be focusing on report writing and the children will be creating a report about Oriel Academy and then move on to writing instructions for how to keep clean at school. We will then be focusing on Traditional Tales where children will describe, act out and re-write familiar stories. Children will continue their Hot Write at the end of each topic taught. This is where they have the opportunity to put the skills they have been learning, into practice in an extended writing session. Children will be given targets based on their work, to help them up-level and continually improve their writing. At the start of each topic they will also complete a Cold Write, giving them an opportunity to show us what they already know about the topic.

Science

Over the next half term children will be looking at 'Living and Non-living. The children will be identifying living and non-living things, a variety of habitats and understanding food chains. We will also be starting our year-long topic of Plants and will be planting some bulbs as part of a year-long investigation.

Cross-curricular Topic work

Our topic for Autumn 1 is 'Me and My School'. In Geography, we will be learning about and comparing Hanworth to the lake district and Ireland. In PSHE will be thinking about belonging, identifying our feelings, what we are good at and setting ourselves new goals for the year. In our RE lessons, we will be learning about Judaism and the different festivals of Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah . In Computing we will be learning about the importance of e-safety when online and creating a presentation using an App on the iPad called 'Popplet'. In Music we will be following a programme of work called Charanga, focusing on the song 'Hands, Feet, Heart'. The children will be learning about the beat and pulse in a piece of music, then identifying the various instruments they can hear. We will also be continuing with Spanish Curriculum and building on children's previous knowledge.

Phonics

During our daily Phonics sessions we will be continuing our work on a variety of sounds. We will be following the Letters and Sounds Programme and will introduce new sounds as and when your child is ready. Each week children will bring home up to 10 spellings to learn in preparation for a short test, usually held on a Friday. Spellings are usually linked to the sounds that the children have been learning, or words specific to a topic of learning. Please encourage your child to practise these each week.

P.E.

We have P.E. every **Wednesday** afternoon. Please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school – shorts, T-shirt and plimsolls (tracksuit bottoms and jumper are permitted in winter months). Children should not be wearing jewellery on these days. We are unable to remove earrings for children so we ask if you can ensure that these are removed before they come to school on PE days. If your child takes part in a sports club they will need a separate PE kit for this.

Many thanks,

Ms Kidwai (Chestnut Class) and Miss Campbell (Cedar)