

Year Two's Half Termly Newsletter – Spring 2nd half, February 2022

Mrs Cowen and Mrs Edwards

We are really excited about our learning journey together during this very busy and fun filled half term. Year Two will be full to the brim with lots of learning, adventures and laughter! In Year Two this term we will be supported by Miss Barton, she will continue to teach in our class every Thursday morning. She loves working with our class and knows all the children well.

Please remember that our door is always open. If you have any questions or want a general chat about your child's learning that we will be very happy to speak with you. We are available most evenings after school so please see the office if you wish to book an appointment or a chat over the phone. We will continue to use your child's Home Learning Journal as a source of communication from time to time so please aim to check these frequently. Please are free to write a message to us in your child's Learning Journal, but please bear in mind that these are not checked every day, so do prompt your child to bring it to the us when they get into class.

The Year Two Curriculum

There is plenty of information on our school website about the curriculum, including knowledge organisers, spelling lists, year group specific curriculum maps and home learning resources, so please head over to find out about all of the Year Two Curriculum.

You will find this information under 'Children'.

Home Learning

In Year Two, we continue to prioritise reading. We ask that pupils read at least five times a week at home. We understand that it is not always possible for pupils to read with an adult every day so we also encourage independent reading. Please can an adult sign their child's reading journal when they have read. As usual, we will complete a weekly reading raffle as an incentive for children to read frequently. The children will have lots of opportunities to read and enjoy books throughout the week at school too. We will only change the reading books when we are confident the children have understood the texts fully and when we read with them. This will usually be once a week but the children will bring 2 books home per week.

Children will be provided with a banded home reading book selected from the class library. We encourage pupils to read these books at home, but to also feel free to read any other book they may enjoy – this could include books from home, a library or even magazines and newspapers. All reading is good reading! All children need to bring their reading packs to school each day. Please record in the journal each time your child reads.

We will continue to focus on developing the children's level of comprehension. During individual and guided reading they will be learning to find answers from the text itself. We will also be encouraging the children to give opinions about what they read and to consider any hidden messages from the author. Please try to encourage this at home too.

Children will also continue to be encouraged to access Times Table Rockstars and take part in numerous battles throughout the course of the year. A strong times table knowledge builds an excellent foundation for mathematical understanding, so please do encourage your child to access TT Rockstars daily. In Year Two we aim for the children to recall quickly multiplication facts for 2x, 5x, 10x and 3x tables with ease and speed.

In Year Two we also ask that children learn to recall number bonds to 10, 20 and 100 and are able to rapidly recall these when asked. Knowledge of these helps with conceptual

understanding and enables the children to answer arithmetic questions quickly and to develop greater fluency. Any support with this at home is also greatly appreciated. Spellings are sent home at the beginning of each half term, these are also saved on the school website. We encourage pupils to practise these spellings as frequently as possible at home. The children will record their scores each Monday and any incorrect spellings in their home learning journal.

This half term's home learning menu is attached, it provides your child with lots of different ideas to further their learning at home. We encourage pupils to complete at least one activity from the menu per half term. We will dedicate time at the end of the half term to share and celebrate any work completed from the menus. We were delighted with the enthusiasm for these so far for Science, Geography and History. We are now excited to see what our young Musicians will produce 😊.

Book Bags

Please ensure that your child's book bag comes to school each day. Pupils should ensure that they have their reading book and Learning Journal in their book bag every day. Letters sent home will be placed in book bags, so please do check frequently for these.

Seesaw

Seesaw will continue to be used by class teachers and your login details should stay the same. If you have any problems logging in, please let us know and we can send the details home. Seesaw may be used to send announcements, any extra home learning or even to showcase excellent work, **but please note that the message function will not be in use.** If you wish to speak to a member of staff, please make an appointment to do so at the school office. Miss Barton will continue to use the Seesaw messaging function to liaise with parents about music lessons.

PLEASE REMEMBER:



We very much look forward to the term ahead and thank you for your continuing support this year.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at any point this year.

Kind regards, Mrs Cowen and Mrs Edwards

Maths In Maths, we will be focussing on Money and Geometry. We will also look at a range of word problems and think about how to interpret these so we can solve them. We will continue to practise rapid recall of number bonds to 10, 20 and 100 alongside times table facts for 2x,5x,10x and 3x.	English In English, we will be reading The Lonely Beast and Rapunzel. We will be learning about plot and how events are sequenced. We will practise writing for a range of different purposes. During Reading lessons we will focus on texts related to the environment and Science.	RE In RE, we will be learning about signs and symbols for Easter. We will consider these questions: How do symbols help us to understand the meaning of the story? What do you think this means? Why is Easter the most important festival in the Christian calendar? What has saving people and rescue got to do with Jesus and Easter?
History In History, we will consider the growth of some of the first civilisations. We will learn that the Romans built an empire. The children will find out that the soldiers had several large armies with many soldiers. They will know that the Romans invaded Britain and find out about Roman towns across Britain.	PHSE ‘Fake is a Mistake’ Grains of Sand There never has and never will be another one of me. The Truth about Me Not all the thoughts we have about ourselves are true. Real is a Big Deal Discussing how different emotions feel. Nice to Meet You! Looking at ways to be polite when meeting others. Sun Safe! Thinking of ways to stay safe in the sun.	Science In our Science lessons this half term we will be studying Plants. The children will observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. They will also find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy
PE I am delighted to inform you that Mr Lomax will teach three weeks of fencing as part of our PE curriculum this half term. We hope that alongside building fencing skills, this will encourage the children to have the courage try new activities outside of school. In PE, we will complete a short unit on Fundamental Movement skills. We will learn to anticipate the movement of a rope when skipping, learn how to 'punt' a ball, and understand how to signal for a pass.	MFL Core vocabulary: Months of the year Phonetics -Alphabet Salutations The children will begin to pronounce the alphabet in French. They will also practise reciting the months of the year in French.	Music: Hands, Feet & Heart In Music we will be exploring how music can have a message and how it may influence others in society. We will consider the social impact music can have on society and how it can put out political messages. This unit has the opportunity to explore the struggles in South African history and the children can learn about influential people such as Nelson Mandela and influential musicians at the time.
DT During our DT Day we will be focussing on textiles. We will be designing and making our own hand puppets. We will practise a range of different joining techniques and types of stitches as we work.		

Year 2 Home Learning Menu Music: Hands, Feet and Heart

Use our Curriculum Map and Knowledge Organisers on our class webpage to find out more about our studies this half term, including other subjects too!



Get Creative

Can you listen to some South African Afropop, South African Jazz or Gospel music? Create a dance or draw and paint a picture as you listen to this piece of music? How does it make you feel?



Oh, the places you'll go!

Why don't you visit The Legacy gallery at the International Slavery Museum? At the Music desk you can listen to more than 300 songs from many different genres which are influenced by African music, such as jazz, the blues and Mersey Beat music from Liverpool.

Time to Teach

Can you compose your own 'Call and Response' song which you could teach to other members of your family?

An example using this is an African song 'Kye Kye Kye' that can be viewed on YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ENTGjgSyUbU>. Try watching this and getting some ideas first.



Reason to Research

What can you find out about South African Afropop music?

Does it include voices and musical instruments? Can you create a set of Top Trumps for the musical instruments that are played?

Can you record your findings in a poster or a fact file?

Ready to Report

Can you create a report all about Miriam Makeba or Hugh Masekela and their music?

This could be a written report or a video/ news report explaining what you find out?



Have it your own way!

Or you can do it your way! Choose to explore the topic further in any way you choose.

Be creative and do it your way!