

Year Two's Half Termly Newsletter – Spring 2

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to our final term of Year 2! I hope you had a lovely Easter Break. It was lovely to finish the Spring term with our trip to Gorse Hill. The children behaved beautifully and showed such enthusiasm for exploring. We are so proud of all their achievements and look forward to more learning this half term!

Thank you to everyone who entered our Easter Shapes Challenge! We have had some brilliant entries and the children have loved sharing their ideas in our maths lessons. We are excited to announce the winner.

Reading:

Reading continues to be a priority in Year 2, particularly moving into the summer term with a strong focus on comprehension skills. Pupils accessing the RWI phonics programme will continue to take home reading books from the scheme or reading QR codes that are closely matched to ability.

Children on the Reading Plus Scheme should be completing **all 5 reading tasks** on Reading Plus each week. This scheme is research based and it supports the children's fluency, vocabulary development and comprehension. We suggest accessing this **daily** for 10-15 minutes, ensuring the children can complete their tasks. If you have any questions of how to access and use Reading Plus, please let me know and I can show you using the iPads at school.

Times Tables:

Times Table Rockstars should be accessed **daily** for 5-10 minutes at home, helping to build the children's fluency and confidence with the 2, 5 and 10 x tables. The children are familiar with how to access this, but if you would like any support using it, please feel free to arrange a time with me and we can go through it together. If you need a reminder of your login, please let me know.



Guide to TTRS:

As mentioned at parents evening, here is a guide to help your child on TTRS and access the Times Tables they need:

- **Daily Practice in 'Garage':** This mode is ideal for building confidence as it focuses on a small selection of tables suited to the learner's progress.
- **Use 'Jamming' for flexibility:** This mode allows the children to select a focus on specific tables without a timer, ideal for building confidence in specific tables. Select 2s, 5s, or 10s.

Reading Plus and TTRS Awards:

Following feedback from parents' evening about children's engagement with reading and times tables, we are excited to introduce weekly awards in Year 2 this half term. These will celebrate children who regularly access the Reading Plus Scheme and Times Tables Rockstars (TTRS).

Each week, we will award a 'Reader of the Week' and a 'Rockstar of the Week'. Their photo will be proudly displayed on our Wall of Fame in our classroom! Awards will be based on time spent on the programmes and a noticeable increase in effort and commitment. The winner will receive a prize from Miss Waldron's new prize box! We really appreciate your support at home and encourage you to motivate your child to regularly access these programmes so they can achieve their best.



PE:

Year 2 will not be swimming this year, instead we have an exciting PE unit planned for personal challenges. Our PE lessons will continue to take place on Thursday afternoons. Here is a reminder of what the children should be wearing for their PE kit:

- Plain white/navy t-shirt or white/navy t-shirt with school logo (available from Premier Sports, Ormskirk or Sefton School Wear, Maghull)
- Plain navy sweatshirt or sweatshirt with school logo (available from Premier Sports, Ormskirk or Sefton School Wear, Maghull)
- Plain navy shorts or joggers
- Black pumps or trainers

Book Bags:

Please ensure your child has their book bag in school every day, with their reading pack inside. We also politely ask that small named keyrings only please, as keyrings can often become a distraction during lesson times.

Home spellings:

We continue to encourage pupils to practise spellings as frequently as possible at home and we will be teaching them in school too. Children will continue to complete spelling tests on a Friday. It is often a good opportunity to practice cursive (joined up) handwriting when practicing spellings at home too. If your child is struggling, please do let me know.

Key term dates:

- Friday 24th April – Mufti (sweets)
- **Thursday 30th April – Year 2 Liverpool Anglican Cathedral Trip**
- Thursday 7th May – Class Worship
- Thursday 21st May – Mrs Lockley's Garden Party

Thank you for your continued support this year,

Miss Waldron

Y2 Summer 1 Curriculum Map

Maths In Maths we will explore 2D and 3D shapes and begin to look at fractions. We will continue to practise our times tables and rapidly recalling facts for the 2x, 5x, 10x and 3x tables.	English In English, we will be reading <i>The King Who Banned the Dark</i> by Emily Howarth-Booth. We will use the text as a stimulus for writing a persuasive letter. Pupils will be encouraged to join letters when writing and continue to develop their range of ambitious vocabulary.	RE In RE, we will be learning about churches and other religious buildings as special places. We will look closely at a range of religious buildings and discuss their similarities and differences. We will be visiting the Liverpool Cathedral to consolidate our learning.
Geography In Geography we will be learning about Kenya. We will learn where Kenya is, describe the climate, think about the impact of tourism and compare Kenya to our local area.	Science In our Science lessons this half term we will be studying <i>Materials and Matter</i>. Through investigations we will learn about properties of liquids, solids and gases.	PHSE – My Happy Mind We will be beginning our next unit ‘Engage’ which is all about setting goals and building resilience. We will also be learning about safe relationships, friendships, resolving conflicts and economic wellbeing.
PE In PE, we will be learning about Personal Challenges. This unit develops pupils’ agility, coordination, jumping and running skills while building confidence and determination. It also helps children understand the importance of fitness and staying active for a healthy lifestyle.	Art In Art we will be exploring colour and texture. We will create our own Matisse cut out pictures using complementary colours and then draw our own textured images inspired by Jan van Eyck, <i>The Arnofini Portrait</i> (1434).	Computing: In our Computing day this half term we will be learning how to create and review digital music. We will use technology to create music and consider the pulse, rhythm and tempo.

Year 2 - Home/School Spellings - Summer 1

Below our home spellings for this half term, we will be practising the spellings the week prior to the test during our class spelling lessons. Spelling tests will continue to be on a Friday.

	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
Test date	Fri 24th April	Fri 1 st May	Fri 8 th May	Fri 15 th May	Friday 22 nd May
	grabbed  hugged patting  dripping runner  winner biggest  dimpest even hour	furry  floppy word  worse warm  warship award treasure  division eye	key  valley alleys  jerseys watch  swallow squash  move prove improve	payment  sickness playful  hopeless bravely  calmly station  emotion any many	merriment  loveliness plentiful  penniless happily  easily fraction  addition question water