



## Spring 1 Newsletter January 2024

### YEAR 2

Dear Parents/Carers,

In this newsletter you will find information on what we are studying this term as well as general information and key dates for your diary. As ever, should you have any questions, do contact us via Clasdojo or, if a quick query, catch us at the end of the day.

As you are aware, Miss Weedon is now on maternity leave with her baby due any day now! If you have any questions regarding spellings, please let dojo me from now on. Spellings will still take place on a Monday, and we will aim to get spellings uploaded onto Ed Shed by Tuesday. We will have different TA's supporting our learning in Year 2 this term.

### Term 3 Learning

#### Summary of Learning

A weekly update will be shared every Friday to give you exact details of what we have been learning in the week. This includes your child's spellings which are also added onto Ed Shed each week.

**English** – We will be looking at the story 'Dread Cat' by Michael Rosen. We will be using the book to help us with descriptive writing, information booklets and refreshing our reading skills. We will be continuing to look at using commas in lists, compound words, subordination (joining sentences using because and if), progressive forms of verbs, adding the suffixes -ly, -ment, -ness, -ful and -less and looking at identifying and using adverbs. Towards the end of the term, we will be looking at poetry writing.

**Phonics** – We will be continuing to learn alternative sounds and will be following a Bridge to Spelling from Little Wandle. Words containing these sounds will be shared on Ed Shed for additional practise. We are also continuing to learn the KS1 tricky words.

**Reading** – We are continuing with our weekly reading sessions, which go over our reading skills and we will be starting our comprehension sessions. Our class book this term is Dave Pigeon by Swapna Haddow.

**Maths** – We will be finishing our 3D shape topic and then we will be looking at multiplication and division and money. Our main focus will be multiplication and division. We will be looking at what multiplication means, how to represent questions in arrays and how to recall facts quickly. We will be looking at different strategies we can use to work out division questions and how multiplication and division are linked. I will share logins for time table rock stars with you over the next few weeks.

**RE** - Our topic this term is who are Humanists and what do they believe? We will be learning all about the values Humanists believe in and what they think makes people special.

**History** – Our topics this term are Emily Davidson (as a significant person) and The Plague (as a significant event beyond our living memory). Our Plague topic will continue into next term and will also link to our Term 4 topic of the Great Fire of London.

**Geography** – We will continue to look at the countries in the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) and we will be looking at the different capital cities of these countries.

**Science:** This term our focus will be biology and we will be exploring different habitats and we will be looking at food chains.

**Music** – This term, our topic is ‘I wanna play in a band!’ where we will be looking at rock music!

**PSHE** – Our topic this term is Celebrating Differences. We will be looking at the stereotypes associated with boys and girls, what bullying is and why it happens, standing up for ourselves and others, gender diversity and celebrating differences but still being friends.

**Art** – Our artist this term is Paul Cezanne where we will be painting fruit using his style of painting.

**P.E.** – This term we will be looking at jumping games and skills and we will also be revisiting and developing our gymnastic skills. From the 22<sup>nd</sup> January our P.E. day will be Monday. Please send your child into school in their kit.

### **Help your child with their learning**

**Spellings** – Spellings will continue to be on a Monday, and these are linked to phonics and the tricky words we are looking at. Encourage your child to spell them (don't always check them in the same order!), spot them in their reading books and make sure your child understand what the words mean. I will also add their spellings to Ed Shed to practise at home.

**Reading** – Children should be reading every day. If your child is accessing phonics books, these need to be read 3 times and when your child receives their book, they should be able to read without overly blending and decoding. Children should not be reading books they cannot read! If your child is accessing Accelerated Reader, they only need to read the book once. However, if your child is scoring below 80% consistently, we will ask you to read the book more than once.

**TTRS** – As mentioned above, once we have started our multiplication and division topic, I will share with you a log in for Times Tables Rockstars. This can be accessed via a web browser or a free app. Practising for 5 minutes a day will really boost your child's understanding and quick recall of multiplication facts!

### **Additional information**

A reminder to make sure everything is named, this includes hats, scarves, gloves and any new coats!

As the weather gets wetter, football at lunch time will now take place on the playground so the children do not need a football kit to change in to.

### **Key dates/information**

Please keep an eye on ClassDojo for up-to-date information.

11<sup>th</sup> January – Help Save Lives – first aid classes for children (at school)

18<sup>th</sup> January – Themed lunch (Superhero Day)

22<sup>nd</sup> January – BOUNCE trampolining workshop (at school)

29<sup>th</sup> January – 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Whizz Kidz fundraising week

1<sup>st</sup> February – Whizz Kidz fun run

2<sup>nd</sup> February – NSPCC Number Day

5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> February – Children's Mental Health Week

6<sup>th</sup> February – Safer Internet Day

9<sup>th</sup> February – Last day of term (full day)

Thank you as always for your continued support.

Miss Whitbread and Mrs Vickers

