



Summer 1 Newsletter April 2023

YEAR 2 (Otters)



Dear Parents/Carers,

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

As you are aware, our school values are Resilience, Community and Respect. Please continue to discuss these at home with your child and how they can reflect these at home and school.

Miss Whitbread and Miss Weedon

Term 5 Learning

Summary of Learning

A reminder that the children have weekly spellings that are shared on classdojo and Spelling Shed and the children can practise their timetables and division facts on Times Table Rockstars (all log in details are inside reading records). This term the children will be completing the KS1 SATS papers (see dates and information below).

English – We will be continuing to look at the Great Fire of London using the book Toby and the Great Fire of London to help support our writing. Our next books will be Superworm by Julia Donaldson and Grandad's Island by Benji Davies. We will use these texts to write story maps, letters, newspaper reports and setting and character descriptions. As part of our SPaG lessons, we will be looking at different sentence types (statements, exclamations, questions and commands) and the punctuation required for these. We will also be looking at apostrophes to show possession (The dog's tail) and for contractions (I'm going to the park), subordinating, and coordinating conjunctions and the different word types we have covered so far (verbs, adjectives, nouns and adverbs).

Phonics – We will be continuing to explore a range of digraphs, trigraphs and alternative sounds as well as focusing on spelling patterns and continuing to learn to read and spell all of the Key Stage One common exception words.

Reading – We are continuing with our weekly reading sessions, which go over our reading skills and we will be starting our comprehension sessions and we will continue to look at reading Paper 1 and 2 in preparation for SATs in later in Term 5.

Maths – Our new topics this term are fractions and time. For our first topic of fractions, we will be looking at halves, quarters and thirds, identifying the numerator and denominators and what they mean and applying our multiplication and division skills to help us solve problems. We will also continue to develop our fluency when multiplying and dividing by 2, 5 and 10 and continuing to add and subtract 2-digit numbers, particularly when we need to regroup.

RE – This term we will be looking at the topic 'Who is a Muslim and what do they believe?'. We will be looking at who the Prophet Muhammad is and his importance to Muslims, the stories the Prophet told and looking at a mosque.

History – This term we will be continuing to look at the Great Fire of London and then we will be looking at Neil Armstrong and the first moon landing.

Geography – Our topic for term 5 and 6 is Australia! We will be looking at the human and physical features, Aboriginal people and their culture, animals, Sydney, the Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree Rainforest.

Science: This term our focus will be biology where we will be looking at naming plants and trees and their structures, observing how plants change as they grow and what they need to grow and identifying and naming different animals and what they eat.

Music – Our topic this term is Friendship Songs, all of our songs will be based around being friends.

PSHE – Our topic this term is Relationships. We will be looking at how to make friends, how to solve problems when they occur and how to help others feel part of a group.

Art – This term we will be looking at the artist Henri Rousseau and will be exploring using different materials and techniques to make in the jungle pictures.

P.E. – This term we are lucky to have Mrs Hunt teaching us dance again!

Help your child with their learning

Spellings – Spellings will continue to be on a Wednesday, 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 understands 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.

Times Table Rock Stars – Every week the children will be expected to complete 15 minutes of games on TTRS. These activities are set for outside school time so will not be completed in school, but the children will have the opportunity to access TTRS in the morning during early morning work.

SATS information

As you are aware, all the children in Year 2 will be completing the Key Stage One SATS in Term 5. The children will undertake 2 maths papers (Paper 1 Arithmetic, Paper 2 Reasoning), 2 reading papers, a spelling paper and a punctuation and grammar paper. The children will be put into groups of 15, 15 children undertaking the assessments and 15 children will be completing other activities such as PE, art, history and science. On the days we are completing the assessments, the children will be provided with juice (apple or orange) and toast (with a choice of butter, jam or marmite).

Below are the dates we will be completing the assessments, please ensure your child is in school, on time, on these days. If, for any reason, your child will not be in school these days – please let me know as soon as possible.

Monday 15th May – Reading Paper 1

Tuesday 16th May – Spelling and Punctuation and Grammar papers.

Wednesday 17th May – Reading Paper 2

Monday 22nd May – Maths Paper 1

Tuesday 23rd May – Maths Paper 2

A reminder not to tell the children they are completing tests during these days – we do not want anyone worrying and want to make the days as relaxed as possible.

Key dates/information

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

17th April – Development day (school closed to children)

18th April – first day of Term 5.

21st April – Crazy hair day (FOSS event).

24th and 26th April – Parent consultations.

27th April – Class pictures.

9th May – Trip to Chatham Dockyard.

15th – 23rd May – KS1 SATS.

26th May – End of term (3:20pm finish)



Thank you as always for your continued support.