



Welcome back! This is a very important half term for year 2. During the week of 6th May, and also the 3rd May, children will be undertaking the key stage one SATs tests. It is important for children to be as relaxed as possible and this is the approach we will take in school. Your cooperation would be very much appreciated. Our topic this half term will focus on the continent of Africa, so any home projects that children do, please feel free to bring them in and we can display these in school! Also, you can contact me through my email address which is [naomi.hemingway@netherthongprimary.co.uk](mailto:naomi.hemingway@netherthongprimary.co.uk). Keep checking our class blog for updates on what we have been up to in class! Here is a link: <http://www.netherthongprimary.co.uk/our-classes/class-5-test-5/class-2-blog>. Many thanks, Miss Hemingway

### English

In our Literacy work this half term we will be consolidating all the knowledge that children have acquired over the year so far to create various different genres of work, including writing stories and descriptions. If you could also make sure that children are practicing the common exception words both by reading and spelling them at home it will be very beneficial to your child in school. We would really like children to increase their stamina for reading so if your children could read books from both school and home it would be very much appreciated. Please include any books that you read in addition to any supplied by school in their reading record. Children do guided reading each day, and will therefore **need** their **reading book** and **reading records** in school **each day**.

### Maths

In maths, we are going to be looking back over every concept we have learnt so far in year 2, to check children's understanding and knowledge in all areas. Reasoning and problem solving skills will be embedded throughout all maths lessons, details of what reasoning is in maths can be found on the 2<sup>nd</sup> page. Children can also access IXL to support their maths learning. See the 2<sup>nd</sup> page for advice on using IXL.

### Topic

This half term children will be learning about the continent of Africa, more specifically, the geography of Kenya. This is through focusing on the main human and physical features of the country. They will learn about the key geographical features of the country including wildlife, landscapes and culture. Children will learn about the similarities and differences between Kenya and the UK along with continuing to develop their geographical skills through interactive activities.

### Other Information

Please can you ensure that PE kits are in school every day with suitable footwear for both outside and inside activities. Earrings must be taken out or covered in tape and long hair needs to be tied back.

### Science and Computing

In science, we will be looking at a variety of habitats and the plants and animals that live there. They will learn to tell the difference between things that are living, dead and things that have never been alive, and apply this in a range of contexts.

In computing, children will learn about searching using the internet. Skilful searches are essential for 21st-century learning and information literacy. With abundant information at our fingertips, it is important to teach and reinforce good searching.

### RE/PSHE

In RE, we will look at how we can take care of our planet and how to treat each other. In PSHE, we are going to be looking at taking care of the environment and rights and responsibilities.

### PE

The children will be learning the basic skills needed for cricket with Pennine Sports Partnership. Also, we will be developing their skills in tennis with a coach from Thongsbridge Tennis Club.

### Art

This half term we will be linking this curriculum area to our topic of Africa, looking at different styles of art from this continent. We will be having a go at painting in a similar style and creating lovely African patterns. Additionally, we hope to make a wonderful African painting on a special canvas, which we will be bringing home at the end of the year!

### Important Dates

- KS1 SATs – Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> May to Fri 10<sup>th</sup> May
- Scrap that Plastic workshop – 22<sup>nd</sup> May during the morning

If any other exciting opportunities arise, I will inform you of dates and times.

## Ways to help you child in Year 2:



### New mathematical vocabulary – Summer 1:

Symmetrical, line of symmetry : fold, match, mirror line, reflection, Pattern, repeating pattern, Cube, cuboid, pyramid, sphere, cone, cylinder, circle, triangle, square, shape, flat, curved, straight, round corner (point, pointed), face, side, edge, time, days of the week: Monday, Tuesday, etc, seasons: spring, summer, autumn, winter, day, week, month, year, weekend, birthday, holiday, morning, afternoon, evening, night, midnight, bedtime, dinnertime, playtime, today, yesterday, tomorrow, before, after, next, last, hour, o'clock, half past, clock, watch, hands

### Reasoning in maths

Reasoning enables children to make use of all their other mathematical skills and so reasoning could be thought of as the 'glue' which helps mathematics makes sense. It is fundamental to knowing and doing mathematics.

As you know, we have high expectations in year 2! A copy of our end of year expectations and the Key Stage 1 interim framework can be found on our class page on the school website. Here is a link: <http://www.netherthongprimary.co.uk/our-classes/class-2>

I'd be really grateful if you would regularly read with your child/ren. **Reading is so important, not just for comprehension, but for their writing also.** A child who does not read regularly will struggle to write sufficiently well enough to be a secure writer at the end of Key Stage 1. Ask the child questions about what they are reading and discuss the different grammatical features you see. They should begin pointing these out more as we cover them in class.

IXL is there to support the maths that we are learning in class, I do not expect your child to get 100 for each area that they have for homework, but I do expect them to put the time and work in. If a child is struggling with a certain concept, they can move to a lower year group to gain confidence before returning to their original year group. A link to IXL is here: <https://uk.ixl.com/>

#### New Vocabulary for this Half-term

Africa	Continents	Kenya	Nairobi	Indian Ocean	River Tana
Great Rift Valley	Swahili	Savannah	Endangered species	Game reserve	Masai Mara

Thank you for your continuing support.

**Miss Hemingway and Miss Watkins**