We are very excited to launch a brand new home reading system in school called **Accelerated Reader**. Designed by Renaissance Learning, this system will initially be launched with children in Years 2 – 6. The staff and children are very excited about the new ‘blended’ learning package which merges ‘ATOS’ levelled reading books with online quizzes and online reading resources. Children will take a regular ‘star test’ to find out their reading numbered ‘zone’ (ZPD) and then can choose books from within their numbered zone to read at home. They will all use a reading record book to track their reading at home – all they have to do is log the date, book and page number (feel free to sign it yourself as well!) and they will get their reading acknowledged in their books with a stamp. Once they have completed a book they will log onto their Accelerated Reader account and take a quiz to win points and get their word count logged.

Children using Accelerated Reader choose their own books to read, rather than having one assigned to them. This makes reading a much more enjoyable experience as they can choose books that are interesting to them.

For much more information, please look at the Accelerated Reader webpage:

https://help.renlearn.co.uk/AR/ARParentGuided

We have been incredibly busy getting the books in school ready for the launch of Accelerated Reader. Staff have spent many hours ATOS levelling the books and putting stickers on them to sort colours and ATOS number levels. A small group of Year 6 pupils have proved to be invaluable in helping with this as well, being supported by Mrs Tindall over many lunchtimes to help get books ready for the whole school. We are very grateful for their enthusiasm, dedication and commitment to this.

ATOS colours are arranged as follows:

- 0.0 – 1.9  yellow
- 2.0 – 2.9  green
- 3.0 – 3.9  blue
- 4.0 – 4.9  red
- 5.0 – 5.9  purple
- 6.0+      black

If your child is in Year 1 or not quite ready to take part in the Accelerated Reader system we have also been investing in and re-organising our other home reading books around phonic content and ability. Your child will also receive a ‘stamp’ for every time they read at home and be supported and encouraged to continue their love of reading.

If you have any questions about the new system please speak to your child’s class teacher and / or phase leader, or Mr Price (FS and KS1) or Mr Presneill (KS2) or Mrs Mason.

Happy reading! We hope you love this as much as we do!
**THIS TERM’S ACTIVITIES**

**NURSERY**
This term in nursery, we welcome our new starters who are settling very well. The children are interested in different countries and asking lots of questions so we will be using this interest as our focus for the term. We will be finding out about Chinese New Year and sampling a range of Chinese food. We will be finding out about some of the countries that our nursery children come from like Russia, Romania and Nepal. We will be reading the story Handa’s Surprise and weighing and cutting up different vegetables and fruit. We will have the opportunity to try some different fruits from the story. We are hoping to invite our families in for a stay and read session and we will advertise the date shortly.

**RECEPTION**
FS2 Team have been busy re-arranging our unit to suit the topic and interests of our children. We have a new role play/small area and construction area for the children to access during their afternoon sessions. We hope that they enjoy exploring and using their new areas.

This term we will be learning about different cultures and different places around the world. Focusing on food, traditions and buildings. We will be leaning about Italy, Nepal, China and South East Asia. If you are from any of these countries and would like to share any traditional clothes, customs, artefacts or recipes please see your child’s class teacher. We will be offering a variety of banquets this term that your kind FS contribution fund will pay for.

In maths, your children will be learning about sharing, one more and one less, halving and doubling, addition and subtraction.

In PE, we will be using the large hall bars, benches and horseboxes to learn how to jump and land safely. We will be focusing on taking measured risks and building confidence in these areas.

**YEAR ONE**
This term, learning will be based around the theme ‘Paddington’. Children will explore maps and globes when investigating Paddington’s journey from Peru to London. They will research rainforests, weather and different groups of animals. They will study specific landmarks in London. Children will go on to learn about healthy eating and will design their own healthy meal. Children will write letters, create emails and write invitations. They will learn about British Values. Towards the end of the term, parents and carers will be invited to school to celebrate the learning that took place.

**Uniform**
A navy blue jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan for Years 1 - 6. Royal blue for FS1 and FS2 (Nursery and reception). Navy, black or grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt or dress/navy and white checked dress. A white or blue polo shirt, shirt or blouse. Flat plain black shoes or trainers (no heels or open toes). Uniform can be ordered from www.myclothing.com
**THIS TERM’S ACTIVITIES**

**YEAR 2**

Scrumptious, delicious, mouth-watering! This term’s topic across the school is food, glorious food and in Year 2, we have chosen to study chocolate. The children will be learning about how and where chocolate grows and they will be completing a DT project where they will be tasting, designing and making their own chocolates. The children will be reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and completing lots of work linked to the book. In science lessons, they will be learning about healthy living, including the importance of a balanced diet and exercise. In Maths, the children will be covering multiplication, division and fractions this term. Please check the weekly blog on the school website for more information about the children’s learning.

**LOWER KEY STAGE 2**

The theme for term 3 is Italy. This is a Design and Technology term with an emphasis on learning about the Italian culture with an outcome of creating and making their own Italian based dish. During this term, there will be a lot of cross-curricular links through literacy, history and geography that will enable the children to have a firm understanding of what they are learning. In addition, PSHE and science lessons will provide children with skills to keep themselves healthy.

Our synchronised swimming group

*Uniform*

A navy blue jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan for Years 1 - 6. Royal blue for FS1 and FS2 (Nursery and reception). Navy, black or grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt or dress/navy and white checked dress. A white or blue polo shirt, shirt or blouse. Flat plain black shoes or trainers (no heels or open toes). Uniform can be ordered from www.myclothing.com
UPPER KEY STAGE 2

In Years 5 and 6 we are starting the New Year with a bang – or should we say “Samba” as this term our topic is all about Brazil. Our topic learning this term will have a geography focus with the children finding out about the physical and human geography of the country and its surrounding areas. We couldn’t learn about Amazon Rainforest and this will English learning as we compare cities and favelas in Brazil. In Art, to look at the artwork of Brazilian we are using his work to style to cannot think of Brazil without thin During our music learning this rhythm of the Samba, finding out music and the dance and we will our own Samba piece. All of this culminate in us attending a Samba 6th February, where we will get and play the Samba drums. PSHE learning this term starts with us looking at the importance of health and hygiene when preparing, cooking and storing food and in RE we are looking at the importance of celebrations within faith and culture of different places and of course we will be looking at the importance of the Mardi Gras. Already we have been really busy getting our books ready to start our new Accelerated Reader Scheme and many of the children are looking forward to getting their noses stuck into a book… more news to follow. So as you can all see we have got a really exciting term ahead of us and we are all looking forward to learning with a Latin-American feel. We thank you for your continued support with your children’s learning. Goodbye and thank you or should we say “Adeus, ansioso para ver todos vocês na escola em breve.”

KEY DATES

Winter Term 2020
Tuesday 7th January – Friday 14th February
Easter Term 2020
Monday 24th February – Friday 3rd April
Spring Term 2020
Monday 20th April – Friday 22nd May
(Bank Holiday Friday 8th May)
Summer Term 2020
Monday 1st June – Friday 17th July

UPCOMING EVENTS

5th February 2020
3F Class Assembly
6th February 2020
Film Night – details to follow
12th February 2020
4K Class Assembly
14th February 2020
Reception Family Friday - based around maths-number, shape
10th March 2020
2B Class Assembly
11th March 2020
KS2 - Astrodome

Uniform

A navy blue jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan for Years 1 - 6. Royal blue for FS1 and FS2 (Nursery and reception). Navy, black or grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt or dress/navy and white checked dress. A white or blue polo shirt, shirt or blouse. Flat plain black shoes or trainers (no heels or open toes). Uniform can be ordered from www.myclothing.com

Big Schools’ Birdwatch

SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY
Outdoor Classroom
8AM - 9AM
HOT CHOCOLATE PROVIDED!
CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT