



Lyminster Primary School

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 @LyminsterSchool
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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the second half term in Year 2. We may be facing uncertain times out of school but please rest assured we are continuing to do all we can to keep your children happy and safe in school.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we will not be able to have a nativity play as normal. I am working on a couple of other ideas of things we can do as a class bubble and will keep you informed. I am keen to keep this time of year magical for the children and think they deserve it after such a tough 2020.

Our Topic – Island Living

Our topic this half term will focus on what it would be like to live on an island. This will be closely linked to learning the Geography of the UK.

Through our geography lessons we will be looking at both the positives and negatives of living on an island and the differences encountered by people living on a mainland and those living on islands. We will be sharing stories about living on an island and you will certainly hear the name Katie Morag pop up!

Homework

Year Two's homework will continue to include daily reading, weekly spellings and mental maths. We would also love to see any additional home learning they do - please email pictures to me at <mailto:office@lyminster.w-sussex.sch.uk> or share via our twitter page.

In class, we will be changing reading and library books on a weekly basis. The children will always have at least two books to read at home and we ask that you read as much as you can. Some of the children have been reluctant to change their books weekly, I do not mind them keeping them a bit longer but we do encourage them to read a variety of texts so please let them know you are keen to hear/read a variety of different books.

Reading

If your child is to achieve expected standards in reading at the end of Key Stage One, it is vital that they practise their reading daily. Our reading focus this half-term is to read accurately by blending the sounds in words that contain the sounds so far, especially recognising different ways of spelling the same sound. Their ability to do this will allow them to focus on the content of the text, as their reading will become more fluent.

Please also continue to read aloud more difficult texts and favourite books to your child - hearing other people read is vital for their learning and helps to cultivate a love of reading for pleasure.

Phonics

Due to missing the phonics screening test in Year 1, your children will be completing this with me this half term. The children's phonics knowledge is continually assessed in school, and the screening will be done in a very similar way to



minimise stress and worry. The screening tests their ability to recognise and sound out the sounds they have been learning in school, it is nothing to be concerned about so please reassure your children if they bring it up. Please refer to the separate letter for more information.

Handwriting

During Year 2, your child is expected to write neatly, using finger spaces, with 'lead-ins' at the start of each lower case letter. They should also be starting to join some of their lower case letters, so please encourage your child to practise at home.

Don't forget that you also have free access to our handwriting website: <https://www.letterjoin.co.uk>. The username is **ak3814** and the password is **home** (swipe capital 'L' on tablets).

We love seeing all the captions, stories, diaries and fact sheets that your children have made so please keep encouraging any independent or supported writing at home.

PE

Please note our PE day will be a Tuesday for this half term. Please ensure your child has appropriate PE clothing for the weather. We can only do outside PE at the moment so will try and do this every week unless the weather prohibits it. Please ensure if your child has long hair that it is tied up on Tuesdays and all jewellery is removed.

Important Dates for your Diary

- ***Christmas Jumper Day 16th December 2020***
- ***The last day of the Autumn Term is Friday 18th December.***
- ***Monday 4th January is an INSET day***
- ***Children back in on Tuesday 5th January***

Named Clothing

Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled and this includes jumpers, book bags and water bottles. As winter approaches, we expect children to have a named coat in school every day. They may also bring hats, scarves and gloves, if named.

We will be continuing to ventilate the classroom as much as possible throughout winter so if your child feels the cold you may wish to put a t-shirt on under their uniform.

As always, you are welcome to email or phone if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Jobbings
The Year 2 Team

