

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and welcome to Year Two! We hope you had a great summer.

This newsletter outlines some of the topics and areas that your children will be learning about this term. We hope that you find it informative and useful and we look forward to working with you this year.

Many thanks,

Miss Hanley, Miss Pitts and Miss Firkins—The Year Two Team

LITERACY

This term we will begin by studying the book, 'Traction Man'. This is the tale of an action figure that gets involved in all sorts of adventures. We will explore characters thoughts and feelings as well as making predictions about the text. We will also work on improving our writing by using adjectives and adverbs for description as well as focusing on the correct use of spelling and punctuation. The non-fiction writing will be made up of retelling events and exploring information leaflets.

Science

For our Science lessons this term, we will be investigating different materials and their properties. We will also be identifying and comparing the suitability of everyday materials for particular uses. We will be putting on our investigation hats too, carrying out a variety of experiments to increase the children's scientific enquiry skills. We will be sure to let you know what we find out. *At home, you could go on a materials hunt. How many objects can they find made of plastic/ metal? Why do they think it is important?*

PE

During our indoor PE sessions we will be exploring movement through dance and gymnastics and how we can manipulate our bodies to create shapes and portray certain events, emotions or feelings. Outdoor PE will be focused on practising our cross-country skills. We will work on improving our fitness by taking part in timed activities (for example, how many star jumps can you do in 1 minute?) and work up to running short distances. PE lessons are on **Mondays** and **Fridays** for Kingfishers, **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** for Owls and **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** for Robins.

Dates for your diary

11th September	Coffee Morning
26th—28th September	Individual Photographs
16th & 18th October	Parent Consultations
11th October	Cross Country Event
29th October	Inset Day
6th & 7th December	Christmas Performances at 2.15pm
Friday 21st December	End of Term. School finishes at 1.45pm

NUMERACY

This term we will be securing our understanding of number and applying these skills to solve problems. We will begin by focusing on place value and supporting the children to understand the value of each digit in a number. We will then move onto ordering and comparing 2-digit numbers as well as counting in 2s, 5s and 10s forwards and backwards from any given number. Later on, we will begin to look at the basic addition and subtraction facts and work on improving fluency within these. *At home, you can practise counting, whenever and wherever possible. Ask children to show you a number as a digit and then as a word. Discuss which value is worth more/ less. How do they know?*

IPC

The title of our topic this term is "People of the Past". This involves the children learning about famous historical figures from the past, such as King Henry VIII, Florence Nightingale, Queen Victoria, Christopher Columbus and Edmund Hilary. History is the main focus of this topic and the children will be exploring the lives and significant events of famous people in the past, creating time lines and considering the differences between their own lives to those who lived in the past.

HOMEWORK

The **times table** and **spelling** tests will take place every Friday. Please refer to the chart in the orange times table book to see which times table children have been asked to learn for the following week. There will be a half-termly **homework** menu to allow more flexibility for you to support your child with their home learning. There are 8 tasks and 2 additional challenges. The 2 literacy and 2 numeracy tasks are **compulsory**. Children will be rewarded for the number of tasks they complete. The tasks set can be completed in any order throughout the first Autumn term. Homework books are to be given in on a Wednesday and handed back on a Friday. Please ensure you are still **reading** with your child for 10 minutes each day. We will be continuing to run the reading buddy system each week so please date and sign your child's reading record at least 3 times a week in order for your child to bring in their buddy the following Friday. Your child will need to bring their reading record into school every Friday.