

Autumn Term - Key Stage 2

Year 4



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,

Mrs Hyson, Mrs Breen, Mrs Allen and Mrs Ridley—The Year Four Team

LITERACY

Our English learning this term will be based on the Power of Reading books *Varjak Paw* and *The Tinderbox*. Please do not read these books in advance to your child at home, so it allows the children to use their predictive skills in school. There is a sequel to *Varjak Paw* called *The Outlaw Varjak Paw*, which would be interesting for the children to read once they have finished the first story.

For spelling, we will be following the Read, Write Inc. structure from last year. A new spelling rule will be taught every Monday and tested on the Friday of the same week.

NUMERACY

In Year 4, mental maths will focus on times tables up to 12x12, and related division facts. Children are expected to know all their times tables by the end of Year 4. Your child will be tested on their times tables weekly.

This half term we will be focusing on place value of numbers, to ensure children are secure with this. Towards the end of the half term, we will move on to addition and subtraction using up to four-digit numbers.

History topic

Temples, Tombs and Treasures.



Science topics

Animals including humans

Electricity



NEWS

Please ensure that all school uniform and equipment is clearly named, including their PE kit. Please make sure your child has blue and black pens, a pencil, a ruler and a glue stick.



Dates for your diary

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| 12th September | Coffee Morning & Workshop |
| 26th-28th | Individual Photos |
| 11th October | Inter-House Cross Country Event |
| 16th & 18th October | Parents Evening |
| 22nd-26th October | Half Term |
| 29th October | INSET day |
| 21st December | End of Term |

This year, we are continuing with the homework system introduced last year. Of the eight tasks, the two maths and two English tasks are **compulsory** (including MyMaths). Homework is to be completed in the given homework book, and handed in as/when tasks have been completed. If the children have a piece to be handed in, then the books should be given in on a Wednesday and they will be handed back to the children on Friday. Please try to ensure that your child hands their book in regularly, rather than just at the end of the half term. 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. Please ensure that your child reads for a minimum of 15 minutes at least 3 times a week.

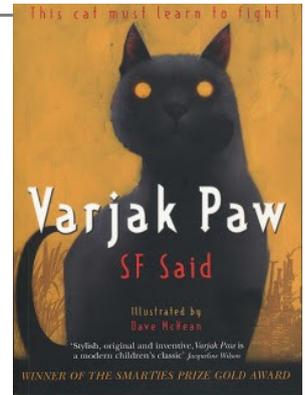
Please ensure PE kits are in school at the start of term. It is important that the children have a tracksuit and trainers in school for outdoor PE in cold weather, as the children still go outside. Please make sure all your child's clothes are labelled with their name.

LITERACY

We are very excited to be continuing our literacy project called “**The Power of Reading**”.

The Power of Reading project is about teaching Literacy through using high quality texts and creative teaching approaches (such as art and drama). This approach aims to engage and motivate children in their literacy learning. It also enables children to deepen their understanding of texts and provides a meaningful context for writing.

In literacy this term, our Power of Reading books will be *Varjak Paw* by S.F. Said, and *The Tinderbox* by Hans Christian Andersen.



How you can help your child:

When reading books, discuss with your child how the author has presented certain characters and enabled the plot to unfold.

It is important that you encourage your child to read daily for 15 minutes and to complete their reading record sheet in the front of their homework book.

Ask for your child’s opinion on whether they liked a particular book or not and ask them to explain why.

Please try to encourage your child to read a range of genres, this tends to help them in their writing when they come to approach writing in different genres.

NUMERACY

The following topics will be covered in depth this term.

Place value, including decimal numbers, Roman Numerals and negative numbers

Mental and written multiplication, with related division facts

Mental and written addition and subtraction, including problems and inverse

Length, including area and perimeter



You can help your child by:

Ensuring they know their times tables and the related division facts, and can recall them quickly and accurately.

Applying the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) in real-life contexts, such as calculating the cost or change when shopping.

Looking for examples of negative numbers and Roman Numerals in context, such as temperature, clocks and at the end of TV programmes (the years are often in Roman Numerals).

By encouraging them to explain the methods they have used when completing their homework .

RE

The children will be looking at The Bible and Sikhism focusing on religious traditions and worship.

The children will also develop their understanding of the Christmas story.



IPC—Temples, Tombs and Treasures

During this unit we will be focusing on History, Art, Technology, Physical Education.

In History, children will be finding out about:

- The main events, dates and characteristics of Ancient Egypt and Ancient Sumer.
- The lives of people in those periods.
- The main similarities and differences between Ancient Egypt and Ancient Sumer.
- How to use their knowledge and understanding to answer simple questions about ancient civilizations.
- How the past can be considered in terms of different time periods.
- How the past has been recorded in a variety of different ways.
- The reasons for particular events and changes.
- How to gather information from simple sources.

In indoor PE, the children will be creating and performing a dance themed around various aspects of Egyptian life.

In outdoor PE, the children will be doing cross country.

In Technology, as part of our topic the children will be making papyrus and using Ancient Egyptian writing techniques.

In Art, children will:

- Know how Ancient Egyptian artists used forms, materials and processes to decorate their tombs, buildings and belongings.



In Music, Mrs Griffiths will be linking the music to our IPC topic.

Science

This year, Science will be taught every week, rather than through IPC topics.

Animals Including Humans

Children will learn about:

- The functions and parts of the digestive system in humans
- The types of teeth and their functions

Children will learn to:

- Record findings using diagrams
- Use written explanations to report on their findings
- Identify the correct type of scientific enquiry to answer a question
- Set up a comparative test
- Use evidence to support their findings

Electricity

Children will learn about:

- Different appliances that run on electricity
- Constructing a simple series electrical circuit and identify whether it will work
- The different parts of an electrical circuit

Children will learn how to:

- Set up a simple practical enquiry
- Record findings using drawings
- Use results to make predictions

