



Dear parents / carers,

We hope you all had a great Easter holiday. The children have returned refreshed and full of energy for the busy term ahead. The following bulletin provides you with details of the work being covered by the children this coming term.

Summer terms trips and celebrations:

Scooter training – Friday 8th May and Thursday 14th May

Sports Day – Wednesday 20th May

The Wetlands Centre trip – Wednesday 10th June

Barnes Literacy Festival – Friday 26th June

Year 2 Graduation - Tuesday 7th July

Whole school 'Open Day' - Thursday 16th July

Reading

Children will continue to have daily guided reading and phonics lessons this term. We will study a wide range of texts including both non-fiction and fiction books also focusing on comprehension and inference skills. We always aim for children to develop a love for reading and encourage them to choose books that they want to read independently.

Library sessions will continue on Tuesdays (2N) and Wednesdays (2S/2SB).

We will also be starting our newly introduced 'Read and Tell' activity taking place on a Thursday afternoon, involving children bringing in a book they have enjoyed to share with the class.

English

We will begin this term by creating a non-chronological report about the lifecycle of butterflies.

Later in the term, we will use a fictional story titled 'No Room for Napoleon' which has a strong environmental message. We will use drama to explore some of the powerful themes using our Thinking School tools. In the final English unit, we will study the text 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. We will be exploring the creative writing skills needed to engage the reader, drawing on the children's knowledge of popular authors and stories to write their own stories with a range of conjunctions, adjectives, and more advanced punctuation (commas, apostrophes, question marks and exclamation marks). We will also be writing a recount about our trip to the Wetlands Centre in the second half of the summer term.

Spellings will continue to be set on Spelling Shed and will be tested every Friday.

Maths

We will continue to cement the foundations of number knowledge and place value. This includes 2-digit addition and subtraction and the use of multiplication and division facts for the 2x, 5x and 10x tables. We will develop the children's understanding of fractions and their ability to find unit and non-unit fractions of both shapes and quantities. We will also be looking in increasing detail at working with time (to fifteen- and five-minute intervals on an analogue clock), statistics and position and direction. We will further develop the children's reasoning ability enabling them to solve 2 step-word problems.

Science

In science, we will learn about a variety of plants and discover how they grow. We will carry out an investigation into the conditions plants need to grow and see what happens when plants do not have light and water. Our science learning on plants will be enriched by our trip to the Wetland Centre on the 10th of June. After half-term, we will explore how food chains operate in given habitats and we will have the chance to do some research into an animal of our choice.

Computing

In computing we will be exploring The International Space Station (ISS); it is a fascinating real-world setting for teaching about how data is collected, used and displayed. It also links to the scientific learning of the conditions needed for plants and animals, including humans, to survive. Later in the term, we will be learning how to create simple animations, storyboarding creative ideas and then decomposing a story into small parts of action to be captured. This will be achieved using the stop motion animation software.

History

We will be exploring the history of space travel focusing on key events which include Yuri Gagarin's first mission into space and Neil Armstrong's first steps on the moon. We will be building on the children's Year 1 knowledge of historical methods of transport and investigate what the future might hold for the next generation of space travel.

Geography

In geography we will be focusing on the location of countries, continents and oceans of the world in relation to the position of the United Kingdom and children's own locality. Children will develop global awareness by looking in detail at the position of the seven continents and five oceans of the world, understanding that the world is spherical and creating their own journeys across the world. Children continue to build on their map skills developed in Year 1 using atlases, world maps and globes more widely, along with using aerial photographs to recognise human and physical features, including landmarks.

Art

This term the children will be looking at the work of Van Gogh as a stimulus. They will be learning to use a variety of painting tools and techniques including colour mixing. They will also explore mark-making with paint and make accurate observational drawings and paintings.

Design and Technology

Our project in this curriculum area this term is to design, make and evaluate a medal which represents themselves and their achievements. They will be designing and making these medals to mark their transition into Key Stage 2. We also explore the work of Antoni Gaudí in our D&T lessons and use his designs as inspiration to create mosaic coasters.

PE

In PE, the children will be working on team building for the first half-term, which will focus on understanding why it is important to include everyone in the team and what makes effective teamwork. We will also be practising for Sports Day during this half term involving a range of track and field activities. In the second half of the term, they will be working on games for understanding. The focus of the learning is to create and understand simple attacking principles, applying them as a team in a game. PE will continue to take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so please remember to send your child in on these days wearing their PE kit.

PSHE

The children will be learning about relationships and the changes in behaviour and experiences as they prepare to transition into Year 3, KS2. We follow the Jigsaw PSHE scheme of work and will be studying the "Relationships" and "Changing Me" topics.

Music

In music this term, the children will study the Polish song 'Tanczmy Labada' which will help to develop the children's sense of beat and encourage cooperative play. The children will learn to play singing games, play an accompaniment and invent a 4-beat body percussion pattern.

We will also be doing lots of singing in the run up to the Year 2 graduation taking place in Summer 2.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

The Year 2 Team