

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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Year 2 Summer Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope everyone managed to get out and enjoy the Easter sunshine. The children certainly look refreshed after a nice long break and it's hard to believe that we have now begun the final term in Key Stage 1!

This half term we have already kicked off our topic this week and this topic will span the whole of the summer term, as there is so much scope to ask and answer lots of questions relating to it. We will explore this through looking at 'Great Explorers' and 'Why do we like to be beside the sea so much?'

Keeping in mind that we have quite a lot to cover over the next few weeks, before half term in particular, your support in ensuring the children get nice early nights and come to school in the morning well rested and ready to try their hardest, will help them and us immensely. We can't stress enough the importance of sleep!

In Maths we will be looking for the children to gain a deeper understanding of the concepts and operations already visited. Mental fluency will continue to remain a focus. We will also be focusing on multiplication and division and learning strategies to solve these calculations effectively, alongside reasoning questions.

We will continue to look at telling the time in Maths, however this is very much a skill that can be forgotten if not practised. If ever there is the opportunity, please support you children to read the time on an analogue clock as well as a digital clock. We are working towards being able to tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes.

In English we will be exploring a range of texts and will be tackling lots of different writing techniques and tools. Handwriting, spelling, punctuation and grammar will remain a focus and children will be encouraged to edit and improve their own writing independently. We have been talking a lot about taking pride in the presentation of our work, in particular our handwriting. We need to ensure letters are the correct size in relation to others (e.g. make sure tall letters e.g. l, h, d are taller than the others etc). If you could support this at home whenever your child writes, this would support them hugely.

Please continue to support and encourage your child at home with their learning. The expectation is that the children in Year 2 will enjoy reading each day at home for approximately 10 minutes and please record this in their reading record. Talk to your child about what they are reading. Perhaps there is a tricky word that they are unsure of its meaning – discuss it and even jot it down in their reading record so that they can share with us the new word that they have learnt. There are different levels of comprehension – “find it” type questions where you can point to the answer in the text and “prove it” questions where you need to dig a bit deeper and use the information from the text to support your answer. Try and use both types of questions with your child to check their understanding of the text that they are reading. If you want any hints or tips on developing your own questioning skills to support your children, then please do ask.

The Year 2 Curriculum map on our website outlines all of the areas of the curriculum that we will be covering.



We cannot emphasise enough how the support you offer at home with the children's reading and other learning has such an enormous impact on the progress that we can achieve in school. Thank you for continuing to support us in helping your child to achieve their full potential.

A very well done to all of those children who have earned lots of certificates already and who are very close to the next, keep it up! We will continue to check your child's reading record and award certificates for reading at home. We do not read with your child on a specific day so please ensure their books and reading records are in every day. Thank you for your support in this.

Homework and spellings will continue to be set on a Friday. We do expect the children to practise writing their spellings as well as accessing Spellingframe and ideally this will be done more than once! When they practise this does not need to be uploaded to Seesaw. **Children will also work on their spellings in school and the test will be carried out on a Friday.**

We also do Maths Wizards once a week. These are quick fire, mental arithmetic tests that last 10 minutes. The children generally enjoy these and are becoming very quick at completing them. It is really improving their quick recall during their Maths activities and is having a big impact on their confidence overall. The difficulty level of these does increase rather rapidly and your child will be able to tell you what times tables they are on if they can so any practise at home will help them greatly. To be successful the children will need to be confident with their 2, 5 and 10 times tables and also be able to recall the associated division facts.

We will continue with the Daily Mile every day. For the first half of this term, PE will be on Monday (Gymnastics) and Friday (Outside) so please ensure the children have their **named** PE kits in school every week. This should include shorts, trousers or leggings and a jumper. If children have their ears pierced, then children will be expected to take these out or cover them up. If covering them up then please provide plasters to do this, otherwise we will have to use tape which is not always the easiest thing to get off.

If you have any questions about the learning or would like to speak to us about your child, please do not hesitate to come and see us. We are normally available at the end of the school day for a quick word. If you need more time than this, please telephone or e-mail the office to make an appointment.

We look forward to another fantastic term of fun, great effort by the children and lots of learning!

Kind Regards,
Miss Aylward and Mrs Ayles

Key Dates for your diary:

Tempest Photography Class Photos – Friday 22nd April
May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 2nd May
Walk to School Week – Monday 16th to Friday 20th May
Half Term – Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June
Bank Holiday for Queen's Jubilee – Monday 6th June
Clean Air Day – Thursday 16th June
National Sports Week 20th to 23rd June
Sports Day – Thursday 23rd June
Occasional Day – Friday 24th June
Reserve Sports Day – Monday 27th June
Class Swap Morning – Thursday 7th July
Child Shows Parent Sharing of Learning – Tuesday 19th July
Term Ends – Friday 22nd July at 1:30pm