



Spring 1
Half Term Information for Parents
Year 2

Happy children aiming high

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you had a mesmeric Christmas and are looking forward to another great year. This term we will be focusing learning on Equality and what it means to be equal. This is an interesting topic and very much relevant in today's society.

Themes: Spring 1 – Equality, What is Equal?

Cross curricular links:

English: In English we will be completing Read Write Inc as usual. We will also be learning to write letters and diary entries alongside a historiographical approach interlinked with our study of the Suffragettes and their influence, change and continuity and how modern Britain was shaped by significant individuals. As usual, the children will be editing and improving their written work in order to help them understand spelling and grammatical errors and how they can be fixed. Additionally, we will continue to broaden our vocabulary and explore the use of co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions.

Geography: In Geography we will explore the 'hot-spots' and key areas linked to the Suffragettes and their struggles. Due to the topic focus of equality and the strive for 'fairness' we will also look at other parts of the world in which people have struggled to establish equality. Ultimately, the use of maps will be to highlight to children the significance of the topic in terms of a world view. Locating America and UK on a map and identifying necessary continents and oceans linked to topic will help the children develop a well-rounded worldview. We will be looking at oceans that we travel across and will use maps practically – discussing and answering key questions.

History: Rosa Parks and Emily Davidson – the Suffragettes will be our main focus this half term. We will be completing fun engaging activities based on these brave women (and men) who fought for equality. We will investigate photography, write newspaper articles, diary entries, explore song lyrics and complete reading activities. It will be useful for the children to have a compare and contrast themed week in which we will debate and discuss changes between 'now and then' with regards to women's rights.

Art: 2nd Feb Y2 class assembly – artwork in preparation for class assembly and parent's coffee morning post-performance. Symbolism for equality/balance. Sculpture Ying and Yang, Night and Day, Male and Female.

PE: Children will perform dances in preparation for our class assembly. We will be playing cricket this half-term; eventually leading up to playing quick cricket once the children have learnt how to bowl, bat and field correctly.

Music: Children will learn to listening to and comparing different genres of music, to include Blues and Jazz. Discussions on why these genres were made popular and where they originated. We will be singing songs in preparation for our class assembly performance.

Subjects being taught separately this half term:

Maths: Children will be learning about money, pocket money and fairness. We will also be learning about measures, length and weight: comparing and ordering lengths and recording the results using < and >. Statistics will be used to teach the children about pictograms, tally charts and diagrams. What is more, we will be exploring time, specifically hour, quarter past and half-past. A consolidation of number and place value will be used to ensure the children can compare and order numbers. Moreover, we will work on our addition and subtraction skills; recognising inverse relationships and the concept of commutativity, using problem solving and reasoning for additional challenge.

Computing: Recognise common uses of information technology beyond school use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private; identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies.

PSCHE: No to Bullying and how we can treat each other with respect, tolerate different faiths – overarching British values.

RE: Importance of love and forgiveness and of loving God and one's neighbours. How Christian values are helpful in the pursuit of equality. We will explore how the children can become helpful citizens and support those around them.

How can you help?

- Ensure your child is in school on time and ready to learn. This includes having all the equipment they need for the day, such as PE kit, reading book and reading record.
- Practise core vocabulary words. Can your child read and spell them?
- Complete homework activities with your child.
- Share your child's school reading book with them, discussing characters, events and opinions. This is best done often and in short bursts.
- Practise mental maths including times tables (2, 5 and 10 in Year 2) and mental addition and subtraction (What is 16-7?); discuss money, time and measures with real examples. Using watches to tell the time on a weekend will also help. Recognising odd and even numbers.
- Encourage your child to tell you what they have been learning about at school and where possible, extend their learning at home, through books, outings, discussions and the internet.
- Please check your child's book bag frequently for letters and other information.
- If you have any interesting topic related artefacts that your child could share for a display or discussion, please bring them into school.

Homework

We will be handing our homework on a fortnightly basis. The homework is not compulsory; however, it will be related to our topic and will benefit the children in their learning journey. The homework will be discussed in class and will be aimed at complementing the work completed. Some activities will be research based; others will focus on completing posters, small pieces of writing or simply free choice tasks relating to the Suffragettes for example.

Class Reminders

PE: Y2 – Tuesday (team games) Wednesday (ball skills) and Friday (hall games)

Please ensure PE kits are in school on all school days to ensure it is available for any extra PE sessions. Children must always have sandshoes. There are labelled boxes under the Y2 coat pegs for PE bags.

Reading books and records must be in school every day. If your child wears glasses – where possible could you ensure that the glasses for PE have a neck support to prevent the glasses from falling off and potentially being broken.