



Dear parents and children,

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term. We hope you enjoyed the holidays and we are really pleased to see that the children have arrived back in school as enthusiastic as ever. The children really enjoyed our topic all about 'The Great Fire of London'. We were really impressed with their enthusiasm and knowledge. We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day this half term with a variety of reading activities. Our class really embraces the 'Recommended Reads' and enjoy bringing in books to show us. We are sure that the children will really enjoy our new topic 'Fly Me to the Moon' which is all about the first moon landing. We would like to invite you to a **Year 2 SATs Information Meeting on Tuesday 5th March at 6.00pm in the hall**. This will be an opportunity for us to give you more information about the end of Year 2 assessments and we will be able to share past papers with you and exemplification examples of the expectations in writing.

Reading:

The children continue to be confident about changing their own reading books and talking to me about the books they are reading. It is great to see that most children are continuing to read regularly at home and I appreciate your comments in the Reading Records as they really help to support what we are doing in school.

In school, we are continuing to have a big focus on comprehension and ensuring that children understand the words they are reading and the nuances of what is happening in their stories. Sometimes, when children are fluent readers, we assume that they are reading with understanding. However, following questioning, we find that they haven't grasped the more subtle clues in the texts. Please continue to ask your children to summarise what they have been reading and ask them some questions related to the text.

Maths at Home:

Every morning, when the children come into class, they practise their Year 2 spellings and then they solve mixed maths calculations involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We mix up how the calculations are presented; sometimes having the answer first and missing numbers, such as: $23=20+?$

It is really important that the children know their number bonds to 10 (e.g. $3+7=10$), fluently so that they can apply this knowledge to number bonds to 20 (e.g. $13+7=20$), and to number bonds to 100 (e.g. $30+70=100$). It would be very beneficial if you could practise these at home to ensure that your child has this knowledge at their fingertips.

When we add or subtract, we first add the tens and then the ones, or takeaway the tens and then the ones e.g. $23+12=$ first, $23+10=33$ then, $33+2=35$

With subtractions it would be: $23-12=$ first, $23-10=13$ then, $13-2=11$
This makes a calculation like $30-14=16$ easier because first you do $30-10=20$ and then $20-4=16$

I hope this is useful so that you can work the same way at home. By the end of Year 2 we expect that children should be able to calculate additions and subtractions like these within 100 and also know the multiplication and related division facts for the 2, 5, 10 and 3 times tables.

Thank you

Sue Ward



English

Reading opportunities

In reading, children will read and discuss a range of information books linked to our topics. Our theme for fiction will be 'Our Recommended Reads' and we will be focusing on reading for pleasure and recommending books to others. We will also be reading a variety of classic and contemporary poems.

Throughout the half term children will be:

- asking and answering questions about texts
- applying phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words
- reading accurately by blending sounds in unfamiliar words
- make inferences on the basis of what is being said and done
- infer what characters are like from actions

Writing opportunities:

In writing, children will learn to write information texts, recounts and their own short poems.

Children will be:

- using well chosen adjectives
- learning to write, review and improve
- organising their writing in line with its purpose
- grouping related information
- learning to join letters and ensuring that they can form their letters correctly
- using familiar and new punctuation correctly including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks and commas for lists
- using some of the characteristic features of the type of writing used

Handwriting joins: *air, ear, oor, our, ing*

Spellings:

- spelling homophones (e.g. their, there and they're)
- contractions (e.g. don't, can't, I'll)
- using the possessive apostrophe (e.g. 'The dog's blanket')
- spelling words ending in 'tion'
- spelling the Year 2 common exception words

Maths

Number

Children will learn to:

- count in steps of 2, 3, and 5 from 0, and in tens from any number, forward or backward
- recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and derive and use related facts up to 100
- show that addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot
- recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers
- solve problems involving multiplication and division, using materials, arrays, repeated addition, mental methods, and multiplication and division facts, including problems in contexts

Expectations are that children will develop fluent methods for calculating mentally. Children who are confident with this will add and subtract 3 numbers and will work to find the missing numbers in calculations involving all the operations.

Fractions

Children will learn to:

- recognise, find, name and write fractions $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length, shape, set of objects or quantity
- write simple fractions e.g. $\frac{1}{2}$ of 6 = 3
- recognise the equivalence of $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$

Measurement: length and mass

Children will learn to:

- choose and use appropriate standard units to estimate and measure length/height in any direction (m/cm) and mass (kg/g) to the nearest appropriate unit, using rulers and scales
- compare and order length and mass and record the results using >, < and =

