

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear Parents,

Although the summer weather is still here we are off to a flying start this autumn in Daisy class. The children are all settling in well to life in Year 2. Our topics this half term are 'harvest' and 'ourselves', we are also finding out about the United Kingdom in geography. Our work in literacy, topic, and art will all tie in with these.

We are beginning with a focus on reading. Children are taking part in a daily reading carousel where they will either: read with a teacher, listen to a story they can follow on a tablet, read independently, do a comprehension writing exercise, or research with information books.

The children will also be building their stamina and fluency in writing. This half term we have been writing about ourselves and we will be writing a story with animal characters that the children have created. We will later be thinking about writing instructions as we prepare a harvest recipe. Autumn is also a wonderful time to look at poetry and the children will be learning and writing harvest poems.

In mathematics we will be building a sturdy base of place value skills. This will enable the children to start expanding their skills in addition and subtraction. We will work with number lines 100 squares and other engaging resources to support children's developing understanding of number. We will also give the children many opportunities to develop jotting skills enabling them to solve problems in a number of different ways. Any help you can give your child with learning to count in 2s, 3s, 5s, and 10s and number bonds to 20 (e.g.  $15+5=20$ ) will benefit them as these are the bedrock for the maths they will do both this year and the future. This term they will also be looking at units we use for measuring.

To tie in with the 'ourselves' topic, in science we will be looking at human beings, our features, how we use our bodies and how we stay healthy. Our ICT lessons will include writing instructions and debugging a simple computer program. As mentioned earlier we will be exploring the different countries of the UK and their capital cities in Geography.

In PE we are looking to build children's confidence and skills in movement and coordination. PE will be outside where possible, so before the weather turns cold, please make sure your child has a tracksuit and please check that your child's trainers that still fit. PE sessions will be on Thursday and Friday afternoons. The children also need a water bottle, which can be taken outside so please could you ensure your child has a named or easily recognised water bottle for the classroom.

Weekly French lessons with the Mme Sandrine will continue to grow their French vocabulary with songs and role play.

### Homework

Reading	Every night, if possible with an adult or older sibling.
Times tables	By the end of Y2 all children should be able to recall their 10, 5, 2 and 3 multiplication tables. Please help your child practice these (there are lots of fun songs and games on the internet)
Spelling	Children will get a set of spellings each Friday to be tested the following Friday.
There will also be a homework grid with a choice of activities for the children to choose to do to support their learning. This will be set for several weeks and the date that it is due back in school will be printed on it.	

Daisy class love story time so If possible, please keep reading and discussing books and stories with your children, as I cannot over emphasise the importance of this. In addition to this if any of you or your family members would like to come in and listen to the children read it would be greatly appreciated by both myself and the children as they really enjoy having someone to listen to them. Please let me know if you would be able to help out with this.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss anything.

Kind regards

Mr Chapman