

Birchwood Avenue Primary School

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Year 2 Spring Newsletter

A very Happy New Year to everyone and welcome back to the Spring Term. We hope you all had a restful Christmas break and are looking forward to an exciting term ahead!

Reading

Please continue to support your child, to encourage a love of reading. They will continue to bring a reading book home each week and we expect them to read for at least 15 minutes each evening. A year 2 reader should be able to read aloud with expression, commenting on the plot, setting and characters. You can support your child by taking turns to read the book. This will keep the story flowing and help them in their understanding. Discuss what has been read and talk about what might happen next. A good grasp of reading will help your child access all areas of the curriculum and stand them in good stead to make progress in their learning. Children reading our book banded books may change their books as soon as they finish it and their parents have signed their reading record. Reading books and records must be in school every day, we do check them regularly.

English



We will begin the term by looking at fairy tales, including Rapunzel. In this unit, the children will learn to recognise good and bad characters, to retell a familiar story and to write in character. Then we will study the Green Ship, developing skills on how to write a persuasive letter, using rhetorical questions to support this. Throughout our work in English, we will be reading quality texts and using them as models for our writing. During each unit of work, we will focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar. In year 2, children are expected to use conjunctions (and, or, but, when, if, that, because), expanded noun phrases (the blue butterfly) and different tenses (past and present) in their writing. They should recognise and use different sentence types (statements, questions and exclamations) and be able to

punctuate their sentences accurately using capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks.

This half term, children will continue their guided reading, they will meet a range of texts over the year and use questioning to build their comprehension and inference skills. Some children will work in small phonics groups every day to continue building their banks of sounds and words that they know, as they work towards building fluency and speed.

Maths

The children will begin the term by learning to use charts interpret graphs and charts in our statistics unit. We will then move onto written methods for addition and subtraction and focusing on commutativity. Towards the end of the spring term we will be learning how to multiply and divide by sharing and making equal groups. The children should be able to use their previous knowledge of double and halves too support their multiplication and dividing skills.

Science

Our spring term will start with the children beginning to identify and classify living things, non-living things and things that have never been alive. Children will also recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things. Then we will look at a range of habitats, looking at the Savannah, the Arctic and forests. The children will learn about what a habitat is, and what animals and plants need to survive in them. Later on in the spring term children will construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.

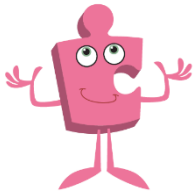
Art and Design Technology

In Art, this term we will be using mixed media looking at primary and secondary colours, colour mixing and creating textures using different tools. We will also look at collage techniques, encouraging the children to experiment with materials and evaluate their artistic choices, developing the children's knowledge and understanding on colour, texture and composition.

PE

Our PE days this year will be on Tuesday and Friday. Please ensure children have their PE kit on these days. In the first half of this term, we will be improving our balance and control in gymnastics and ball skills in games.

PSHE



This term we continue to follow the Jigsaw scheme in Year 2 and will focus on our dreams and goals for this New Year. The children will explore how to stay motivated when doing something challenging. The children will learn to foster a positive attitude and how to help themselves and others to achieve dreams and goals.

RE



During the Spring Term, we will be learning about the how we know that some people are believed to have a special connection to God through looking for clues in different religious stories.

History

In History, this term we will be looking at identifying important events in the past, including how did we learn to fly? And how has flying changed over time? The children will explore primary sources to find out about people and events in the past and learn about correctly ordering events on a timeline.

Homework

As well as reading daily, a new list of spellings will be handed out, every Friday, for your children to practise at home. This will be linked to the spelling pattern being taught in class that week. Every Friday, we will be setting an essential maths activity, which can be found in your child's homework book. This activity will help review the week's lessons and support the children to consolidate their learning

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Cole and the Year 2 team.