

# Happy New Year To You All!



I hope you all had a lovely Christmas. Your children have returned to school full of exciting news about their Christmas and New Year celebrations. I have really enjoyed listening to and reading all about their Christmas holiday. It sounds like there are some extremely lucky children in our class!!

Yesterday, we marked the 160<sup>th</sup> birthday of St. Peter's school with a special assembly led by Reverend Ruth Colby. We also enjoyed a special cake in honour of the occasion.

We have a busy but quite short Spring term ahead with lots of new learning and exciting activities to pack into the next weeks.

Our new driver topic for this term is geography based and is called 'Coastlines'. This topic will teach children about the physical and human features of coastal regions across the United Kingdom, including a detailed exploration of the coastal town of Whitby, in Yorkshire. I will be sending out a new optional homework grid with a range of linked activities for the children to choose from if they wish to do so. Homework can be sent into school on a Friday morning once again to be celebrated by us all.

In science, we will be building on previous knowledge through our topic named 'plant survival'. The children will develop their knowledge about the growth of plants from seeds and bulbs. They will also observe the growth of plants first hand, recording changes over time and identifying what plants need to grow and stay healthy.

In R.E. our focus is 'Who made the World?' and we will begin by learning about the story of The Creation by looking at what happened each day – this will be completed through discussion, art and drama. The final few weeks of learning will lead into the Easter story.

Our topic in Art is 'Flower Head' (This will be for the first half term, followed by Design and Technology after the mid-term break). The project teaches children about the visual elements of flowers, including shape, texture, colour, pattern and form. They will also explore various artistic methods, including drawing, printmaking and 3-D forms, using paper and clay.

In addition to these learning areas, we will also enjoy sessions of IT, Music and P.E. – all in all, rather a busy term ahead!! Please note that **indoor PE** will now be on a **Thursday** afternoon.

## Year 2 Spelling:

Spelling tests will continue to take place every Thursday (apart from when we are at Beaumanor Hall!!). Weekly lists and tips to help with learning the new words can be found on the class page of the school website. The new lists are more challenging than last term and all I can ask is that the children do their best. There is a lot of repetition with key words and many of these will be addressed in daily handwriting activities as well as spelling sessions. Our first spelling test will be next Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January.

## Reading:

Year one reading has been updated for this term. You will receive a separate letter explaining this. Please continue to encourage your child to read at least three times a week and continue to sign it in the diary pages of their planner – I really appreciate your support with this. I will continue to be checking diaries every Friday and will award stickers as a reward for regular reading.

Additional Information:

- P.E. – Children will still require an outdoor kit for Thursday and Friday sessions
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Overnight residential visit for year 2 to Beaumanor Hall – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Further information will be sent out later this term.

Please keep checking my class page of the school website for all information and updates. I will send a more detailed newsletter as normal in a fortnight from now – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January.

Have a great weekend!

Miss Fisher 😊