



Fortnightly Newsletter



18th April 2024

Welcome back to the Summer Term and I hope you were able to enjoy some sunshine over the Easter break! Although the time is flying by, we still have lots of exciting things planned for the many remaining weeks of Year 2. Your children returned to school on Monday full of news and enthusiasm and it was so lovely to hear and read about all of their Easter holiday adventures.

A new term brings new topics for us to enjoy. Our main driver topic for the term is history based – ‘Magnificent Monarchs!’ This project teaches children about the English and British monarchy from AD 871 to the present day. Using timelines, information about royal palaces, portraits and other historical sources, the children will build up an understanding of the monarchs and then research six of the most significant sovereigns.

Our science work this term is ‘Animal Survival’ and this will build on lots of prior knowledge from Year 1. This project will teach the children about growth in animals by exploring the life cycles of some familiar animals. They will also build on their learning about the survival of humans by identifying the basic needs of animals for survival, including food, water, air and shelter. We are hoping to be able to use the wonderful forest school grounds belonging to Mrs Pynegar once again to support learning in the great outdoors. Once we have her permission, we will inform you of the dates. These visits will take place later in the term.

In art, our topic links nicely with history and is called ‘Portraits and Poses’ This will involve sketching and analysing Tudor portraits and comparing them with modern day selfies!

Design and Technology will begin after the half term break when the children will have a go at creating a greetings card with a moving part (slightly less technical than our beach huts!)

Our R.E. focus this term is ‘Belonging’ and the children will begin by talking about all the different ways in which they belong, how it makes them feel and why it matters to them.

Homework:

Thank you for continuing to support your child with regular reading and weekly spellings.

Today, your child will be bringing home information that outlines the creative homework task that we have set for this term. It is both history and art based and we think that the children will really enjoy the challenge. As mentioned in the information that was sent, we would like their artwork to be returned to school on Friday 19th May and we look forward to sharing and celebrating their achievements across Key Stage 1 and also in an assembly before creating a wonderful, colourful display around school.

Maths:

We have now come to the end of our unit of work on multiplication and division and the children completed a short assessment to check their understanding. We are now enjoying some work on measuring using a variety of units of measurement.

I have also sent out some further 'Big Maths Beat That' sheets for the children to complete at home if they wish to. Many of you told me at parents' evening that your child had found these very useful and actually enjoyed completing them!

English:

As well as spelling and handwriting, we are now enjoying our new Talk for Writing unit based around a suspense story called 'Kassim and the Greedy Dragon'. So far, the children have written their own scary story about an empty house along with designing a story map based on our focus text. We also spent some time outside looking for clues because we think a dragon may have visited the school gardens! We found scales, evidence of hot fiery breath and even some dragon droppings!!

Reading:

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. As always, I am quite happy for children to record their own home reading into their diary under your supervision if this is easier. I am also happy for children to read their own books from home or the library if they wish to, I will continue to be checking diaries every Friday and will award stickers as a reward for regular reading. If books need changing in between your child's nominated book change day, they will need to let me know and I can organise an extra book.

Additional Information:

- P.E. – Children will require an indoor kit for both Tuesday and Friday sessions – we now have P.E. with Gordon again on a Friday on the school hall.

Please keep checking my class page of the school website for all information, photos and updates.

Have a great weekend!

Mrs Gilbey