



★ Newsletter ★

19th January 2024

We are now well into the spring term and your children have settled back nicely into all of our routines. The children continue to work really hard – our new daily timetable is very busy and I would imagine that there are some tired children by the end of the week!

Today, I sent a copy of the homework grid for our driver topic (Coastlines). As with all homework, the activities on the grid are optional and children can complete as many as they wish to in their own time. I would appreciate it if you could stick/staple the grid into their homework journal that was given out at the start of the school year.

Our topics are now well underway and the children are really enjoying all of the different areas of learning. In R.E. we have enjoyed listening to and learning about 'The Creation' and our fantastic artwork was on show in last week's Friday newsletter – certainly take care work to be extremely proud of! From this, the children have thought carefully about why we need to rest and created a dance for each day of the creation story. In Science, we have looked at seeds, bulbs and a range of winter plants and shrubs. For our work in Geography, we have been looking at a range of maps that use symbols and a key. The children are learning that a key is the information needed to read a map and a symbol is a picture or icon used to show a geographical feature. From this, we will then look at both human and physical features of a coastal town. As part of our Coastline topic, we will be finding out more about lifeboats in the U.K. and we are pleased that a visiting speaker from the RNLI will visit us in early March to talk to the children about their very important work.

For year 2, Our overnight residential visit to Beaumanor Hall is getting closer and quite a few children have been asking questions about this. We will be sending out more detailed information including a full kit list later this term.

The children are continuing to enjoy their outdoor P.E. sessions with Josh on Friday mornings – this half term, the focus is multi sports and so far, the children have developed their skills in rugby and tennis. I would strongly recommend that you send long jogging bottoms and a warm top for these sessions if you have not already done so as it can be very cold. Also, children who are wearing tights as part of their uniform, need a spare pair of socks to change into for P.E. sessions – thank you!

Maths: Year 1: Our new unit is back to place value where we are counting backwards and forwards to 20 and beyond. The children are counting on from ten and recognising how ten is used in teen numbers.

Year 2: We have now finished our unit on addition and subtraction. We have focused on adding and taking away ten and how this can be used within a two digit calculation. The children found calculating with 2 digit numbers tricky and this is something that we will revisit and drip feed over the year. We will move on to a new area of learning and have started our work on money.

For both year one and two, we are also beginning each maths session with ten minutes of arithmetic to improve fluency and recall skills. The children are loving this and finding that they are improving their scores daily.

English:

The children have now completed their stories (known as a hot write) to bring our unit of work on 'The Papaya That Spoke' to a close. I was really pleased with their efforts. We have now moved onto a new unit of work, starting with a description of a setting before working on the story structure of Little Red Riding Hood for the next few weeks.

Reading:

Please aim to read with your child at least three times a week and continue to sign it in the diary pages of their planner. 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 require an indoor kit for Thursday sessions and an outdoor kit for Friday mornings.
- RNLI visiting speaker – Monday 4th March (pm)
- Overnight residential visit to Beaumanor Hall – Wednesday 13th/Thursday 14th March. Further information will be sent out later this term.
- Parents' evenings – Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March

Have a great weekend!

Miss Fisher 😊