

Welcome to Year 2



Newsletter

Spring Term

We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. The children have returned well rested and ready to learn and explore new challenges over the this half term.

Topic – 'The Great Explorers'

Our topic this half term centres on great explorers over time. We will be exploring the adventures of Amelia Earhart, Sir Francis Drake, Neil Armstrong and Sir Edmund Hillary. We will be studying who they were, what they did and why they were important.

We will also be studying different forms of transport, both past and present. We will link this to the types of transport our explorers would have used and how these have changed over time. In Geography we will be going on our own adventure around the local area, focussing on key features and making a map to track our walk. In science we will be studying the inventions of Charles Macintosh and how his work changed clothing to improve conditions in poor weather. We will be making our own waterproof clothing in D.T as well as designing and making a moving vehicle using wheels and axles.

Maths

In maths, we will continue to practise and learn by heart our 2s, 5s and 10s times-tables, as well as practising counting in 3s. We will be learning the number bonds to 10, 20 and 100 and applying this during our mental arithmetic and quick maths work. We will be practising the skills we have learnt so far this year in our fluency sessions in order to improve our skills and our mental maths ability. We will also be exploring multiplication and division, before moving on to learn about statistics and shape.

English

Reading continues to be a huge priority in year 2. As you know we are using the **Reading Olympiad** system across the whole school and the points the children have collected so far will carry on into this half term. We will continue to encourage the children to read books at home with an adult to collect points and certificates. Our Inspire Library Service books will still be available to enable children to bring home books from the recommended reading list, as well as their own reading level book. **Every** book read is worth at least 1 point. Certificates are awarded during whole school assembly when children achieve their bronze, silver, gold and platinum. Please support your child with this and enable them to read as many books as they can. We will have a book of the week which we will read alongside our class novel – The Enchanted Wood. We continue to read **daily** as part of a shared reading session, as well as individually with the adults in school.

The children will be given a range of writing opportunities over the half term focussing on our topic 'The Great Explorers'. They will explore adventure stories using the ideas and vocabulary to create their own story. They will be writing in role as one of the many explorers we will be learning about, including diary entries and recounts of their adventures. There will be also be a big focus on spelling, vocabulary and grammar, looking at nouns, noun phrases, adjectives and verbs.

P.E

Our P.E days remain the same, Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning. Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school every day as these days can change. We will be outside during Fridays PE session so it advisable that children have warm clothing as we gear up to the cold weather. PLEASE ensure jewellery is removed please as we often have lost earrings if they are taken out at school.

Thank you

Finally, thank you for ensuring your children are at the door at 8.45am ready to come into class and begin their learning. This is when the children do 'key skills' work and is important that they come into class quickly, independently and get straight on with their work. Those valuable minutes between 8.45am and 9am obviously total to 1 hour and 15 minutes of learning time across the course of a whole week. Thank you for your continued support with this.

If there is anything you would like to discuss please don't hesitate to pop in. After school is better, but we are available first thing in the morning if necessary.

Thank you for your continued support!

The Year 2 team