

27<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back after the Easter holidays. It is lovely to see all the children back in school and ready to start their final term. Once again we would like to outline the topics and areas of study that we will be covering this half term. We are delighted to see the children continuing to be so enthusiastic about learning, and are always pleased to see additional work they have wanted to do at home. This half term is very busy for Year 2 as the children will be doing their SATs tests in May. The children have all been working very hard in preparation for these and are keen to show how much they have learnt since they first started school.

Thank you for all your continued support - it is very much appreciated.

Mrs Clare Leck

<p>English</p> 	<p>This half term, the children will be developing their story writing skills and will be thinking about characters, settings and a simple plot. They will use other familiar stories as a starting point to develop their own story structures. The children will be introduced to organising their work into paragraphs, and will be encouraged to develop and extend their ideas. Literacy lessons will continue to have a grammar focus and the children will practise identifying and writing different types of sentences including statements, questions, commands and exclamations. They will consolidate their knowledge of nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs. Pupils will continue to have a daily phonics lesson and the children will learn how to use dictionaries to support spelling accuracy. Pupils will continue to be given a range of reading opportunities to encourage an ethos of "Reading for Pleasure".</p>
<p>Mathematics</p> 	<p>During maths lessons, pupils will continue to focus on developing confidence when using a range of different strategies to support calculations. Children will be encouraged to develop their mental arithmetic skills, and expand their understanding of place value. The children will practise reading word problems, identifying the calculation(s) needed, and showing their working out clearly. They will also be learning about a range of measures, including time, capacity, weight(mass) and length.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>During science lessons, pupils will continue to learn about seasonal changes and will be using our school grounds to look for signs of Spring. They will observe the school pond and try to identify some of the animals living in it. Pupils will also be learning about food chains. Later this half term, the children will focus on plants and will carry out some scientific investigations to find out what plants need to survive. They will label parts of a plant and will try to grow their own plants from seed.</p>
<p>ICT and Computing</p> 	<p>Our computing lessons this half term will focus on simple programming. The children will be using BeeBots (programmable toys) and Logo (a software programme in which children type in commands to move an icon on a screen).</p>

<p>Geography</p> 	<p>The Geography work this half term will be linked to our science topic, and children will be exploring our school environment to discover the range of plants and animals living and growing in our grounds, including the school pond.</p>
<p>Art and Design Technology</p> 	<p>Art sessions will support the topic work this half term and will incorporate a range of different skills such as colour mixing, painting, and drawing. The children will also be using clay to create their own minibeads. Pupils will make observational drawings of Spring flowers and the minibeads that they discover in the school pond.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>The children will be learning Springtime songs and new songs that we sing altogether in school assemblies.</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>The children continue have one indoor and one outdoor P.E. session a week. The indoor session this half term will focus on gymnastics. Pupils will be developing a sequence of moves and focussing on posture, control and strength. The outdoor sessions will start with an orienteering focus and then we will move on to an athletics programme in preparation for Sports' Morning.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>In RE lessons, pupils will be thinking about 'Who is Jesus and why is he inspiring for some people?' The children will listen to stories from the Bible describing the life of Jesus and exploring the lessons that can be learned from these stories.</p>
<p>Citizenship and Global Awareness</p> 	<p>This half term the children will be encouraged to think about how they can care for and look after the plants and animals in our local environment. They will be learning about the countryside code and their responsibility to protect the place where they live.</p>
<p>Homework Ideas</p> 	<p>Here are some ideas to support your child at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily reading (school books or home books are fine)</li> <li>• Writing (stories, diaries, recounts, book reviews)</li> <li>• Cooking (reading instructions, weighing and measuring)</li> <li>• Shopping (using coins and getting change)</li> <li>• Telling the time</li> <li>• Learning Times Tables (starting with 2s, 5s and 10s, then 3s and 4s)</li> <li>• Looking at maps and following directions</li> </ul>