



# Spring Term - Year 2

## What we are learning this half term:

### Reading

Each child will continue to be heard read at least once per week and this is recorded in our class records. If each child continues to bring their book into school on a daily basis this record can then be updated in their diaries and links between home and school can be maintained. Without these books in school, children are still heard weekly, but you may be unaware as we have lost the link between school and home. It will also mean that the children can take regular reading tests in school which allows us to make assessments of how well they are reading and their understanding of the different texts, as well as give support where and when necessary. Throughout the term, Year 2 will also be reading a number of short texts within the class which will fit in with our new topic of The Plague. Elements of these texts will then be used to influence the Literacy lessons.

### Writing

The children will be producing many pieces of writing, which will be all related to our topic. During the term the children will aim to develop positive attitudes to their writing and stamina through writing for different purposes. We will continue to ensure that punctuation is developed, and the composition of their sentences is accurate and detailed. We will continue to work on all aspects of Grammar and they will learn new ways of developing their spelling. This will be through direct phonics work and weekly spelling tests, as well as daily practice of the common exception words.

### Maths

This term, the children will be focusing on:

- Multiplication and Division
- Statistics: bar charts and pictograms
- Shape
- Fractions
- Measurement, Length and Mass

Throughout the year all children in Year 2 are expected to know their 2x, 5x, 10x and 3x tables. Any help at home would be greatly appreciated and would help your child enormously.

### Topic

This term, Year 2 will be learning all about the deadly Plague that hit London in 1665. During this unit of work we will be reading lots of plague themed texts and will write for a range of purposes based on these quality texts.

Alongside the Literacy texts we will also consider how the plague started and the effect that it had on the people in and around London. We will observe and handle sources of information to ask and answer questions about the past and explain why eye-witness accounts at the time may vary.

The children will be also be encouraged to recognise that there are reasons why people in the past acted as they did, and will begin to identify some of the different ways which the past is represented.

## Important Dates:

Each **Thursday afternoon** of this term Year 2 will go swimming. We will leave school at 1.10pm and will return at approximately 2.30pm. We also have a parent workshop booked for **Thursday 23rd January**—a letter detailing this workshop will follow shortly.

## Homework:

As before homework will be set on a Friday of each week and will be due on or before the following Thursday. The children will receive a piece of Maths, Spellings and handwriting each, and will have the opportunity to work from the topic homework grid that will be provided and sent home with your child. This is always an opportunity for the children to stun and amaze me with their creations and I look forward to seeing lots of finished pieces—please ask your child for their copy of this grid so that you can encourage and provide support with this.

Spellings will again focus on the phonic sound being covered in the week, alongside the Year 1 and 2 common exception words which each child is expected to know by the end of this academic year. Any child who has a little extra support at home on learning to read and spell is at a distinct advantage as it will benefit them in their Literacy lessons. If you have 10 minutes per day to help your child with this, it will make a huge difference to them.

## Notes from the teacher:

### Welcome to the Spring Term

Hope you've all had a lovely Christmas break and are fully rested ready for the new term. I am looking forward to a lovely Spring Term and preparing the children for their end of year SATs assessments. The above date of 23rd January will be a perfect opportunity to see what is expected of your child and how you can help them.

### PE lessons

PE will continue to take place on a Wednesday afternoon so could all children please bring in a PE bag with pumps, blue shorts and a white top, as well as a pair of tracksuit bottoms just in case the lesson takes place outside. This bag will once again be left on their peg and will be sent home at half term for a wash.

Sadly, we still have a lot of children who run the risk of missing their PE lesson because of a failure to bring in a suitable PE kit. We only have a small amount of spare kit and a child missing out on their PE lesson is a shame—please, please, please could I ask that you make this a priority and set aside a spare bag with their Kit inside to leave in school so that they are never without.