

Year 2 Newsletter Spring 2

All of the Year 2 staff would like to welcome you back after what we hope was an enjoyable half term. We are very much looking forward to the wonderful learning opportunities that await us this half term. Our doors are always open and we are here to help, so if you have any concerns or questions, please speak to either your child's Class Teacher or Teaching Assistant.

LITERACY

Our topic this half term is "Land Ahoy!" which focuses on learning about famous explorers who have travelled across the seven seas and some of the pirates they may have encountered along the way. In our English lessons, we will be studying the picture book 'The Tin Forest' by Helen Ward. We will be exploring the wonderful descriptive language that the author uses in the story and innovating our own journey story by changing the setting.

We will then move on to focusing on the text 'The Pirate Crunchers' by Jonny Duddle. We will explore unfamiliar vocabulary and ...

Key vocabulary:

beginning	middle	ending
noun phrases	adjectives	verbs
sentences	punctuation	

Mathematics

This half term, we will continue to explore the properties of 2-D and 3-D shapes. We will learn to describe and sort shapes based on the shapes' mathematical properties, using the correct terminology.

We will also be learning about fractions, building on our knowledge of equal parts, which we came across when learning about multiplication and division. As part of this unit of learning we will focus on equal parts in a range of contexts, including shape, numbers, measurements and money.

Homework for maths will be set using Mathematics on a weekly basis. If your child requires computer access in school time, please let us know. Times tables will continue to be a key focus and you can help your child by practising these with them too.

Key vocabulary:

polygon	sides	vertices	edges
faces	symmetry		
half	quarter	thirds	

SCIENCE

This half term, Year 2 will be finding out all about plants. We will explore what plants are growing around our academy and think about the conditions in the places they are growing. We will learn about seeds and what conditions they need to germinate before investigating what plants need to grow.

Key Vocabulary:

germinate	fair test
seeds	bulbs
roots	stem leaves



Other Curriculum Areas

PE - This term, we will be practising ball handling skills and working on our throwing and catching.

RE - The question we will be investigating in RE this half term is 'How do Muslims and Christians celebrate new life?'

PSHE - This half term, we will be learning about healthy relationships thinking about how we can listen to others and play cooperatively. We will also be looking at the importance of valuing differences and being respectful.

Music - This half term, we will be learning all about reggae music. We will be continuing to identify the pulse in a song and using improvisation to perform.

Computing - This half term, we will be looking at how we can use the internet to search for information and recap on how to stay safe whilst using the internet.

For other areas of the curriculum, please see our overview on the next page.



The Bulletin Board

Things to remember:

Every day: Reading Books and Reading record

Tuesday: Hand in phonics storybooks

Thursday: Elm PE

Friday: Spelling test

** PE kits should come into school on Mondays and can be taken home on Fridays*

Homework:

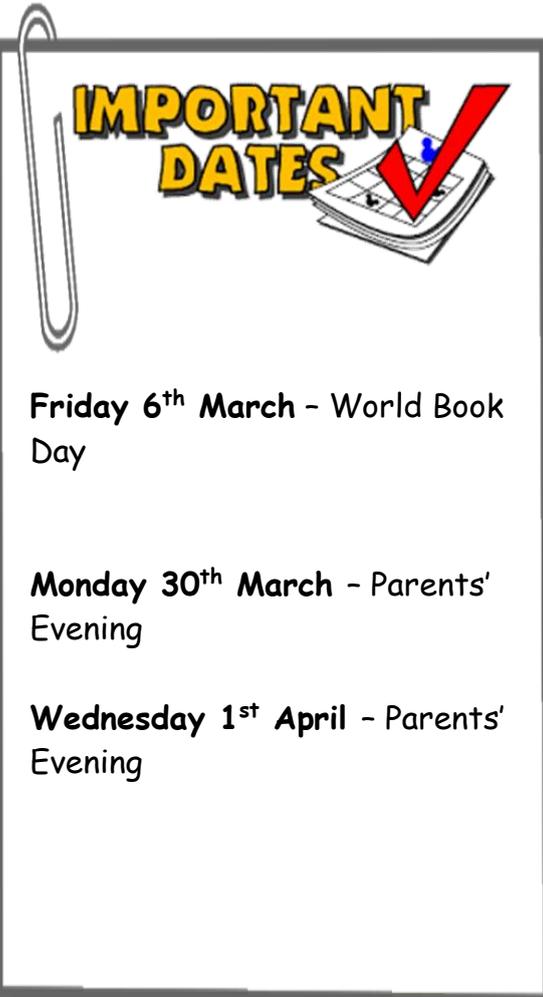
Maths is set online **every Monday** and must be completed by the **following Monday**.

Comprehension is set on a **Wednesday** and must be returned on the **following Tuesday**.

For **Topic**, please see the overview in the homework books.

Spellings are given at the start of every week, **but do not need to be handed in**. **Spelling tests** are on **Fridays**.

Phonics storybooks are sent home for daily reading.



IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 6th March - World Book Day

Monday 30th March - Parents' Evening

Wednesday 1st April - Parents' Evening



Shiver me timbers!

Ahoy me hearties. It's time to set sail across the seven seas and explore the many lands in search of treasure. So jump aboard and join in this amazing adventure.



Land Ahoy!

Famous sea explorers

As part of our Land Ahoy! topic we will learn about different explorers that roamed the seas including the explorer Christopher Columbus. We will create a timeline of sea exploration and research all about a pirate's life. We will also learn about Grace Darling and how she rescued shipwreck survivors.

Art and Design

This half term, we will be designing and making pirate flags for our very own pirate ships. We will continue to develop our sketching skills by sketching boats and lighthouses and finish by making our own pirate ships.



Around the UK

In Geography, we will be looking closely at maps of the UK to identify surrounding seas. We will also think about the oceans of the world and how pirates used these to travel.

Science

In science, we will become 'little gardeners' and explore what plants need in order to survive. We will explore the grounds of our academy, to investigate the different plants we can find and what kind of conditions exist. We will plan what plants we could try to grow and where by first understanding in what conditions different plants grow best. We will learn about how seeds germinate and investigate whether plants need air, light, heat and water.



RE

This half term, the question we will investigate is how Muslims and Christians celebrate new life. We will begin by considering why babies are special and think about how we can welcome new people into our world.

