

Spring Term 2020

Year 2 Newsletter

Hello and welcome back. We hope you have enjoyed the Christmas break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the new term ahead! We are very much looking forward to working with you and your children this term. We would also like to say a huge thank you to all the children and families for the lovely gifts the Year 2 team received for Christmas.



The purpose of this letter is to give you an outline of the term ahead and to give you some information about some of the curriculum areas Year 2 will be covering.

Topics this term include:

Science: Animals including Humans - Basic needs for survival and offspring. The importance of exercise and being healthy.

History: Significant Contributions from Individuals - Florence Nightingale, Edith Cavell, Mary Seacole and Nicholas Breakspear (local link)

Geography: Beyond the school gates - simple mapping routes, compass directions and symbols.

Technology: Designing and making a healthy snack.

Art: Painting with watercolour - Turner inspired Seascapes. Charcoal animals - line, form, perspective and shading.

ICT: Researching a topic using search engines. Photography - taking, selecting and editing digital images.

PE - Dance, ball skills and team games.

RE - Prayer, Jewish Shabbat & Passover and Easter

Further Year 2 curriculum information is available on the school website in the Classroom and Curriculum information sections.

In English we will be starting the term by focusing on poetry and using our senses as inspiration for writing. We will also develop non-fiction writing skills through linking some of our Science topic work into our English lessons. We will have dedicated Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar sessions each week and, in addition to our English lessons, the class will undertake Literacy activities each day. These will include a guided reading session, a handwriting task, a grammar activity and a Big Question debating session. As part of your child's continuing development, regular reading of a variety of texts at home is extremely beneficial, both reading and being read to. Please write in your child's reading diary so we can keep a track on their progress. In the Year 2 section of the school website you will find a recommended reading list. Children will be given spellings on a Friday which they will need to learn in preparation for testing the following Friday. Your help with encouraging children to learn their spellings regularly will be greatly appreciated. It is also beneficial to practise spellings from previous weeks.

In Maths, we will be looking at place value, written addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, 2D and 3D shapes, symmetry, telling the time and working with money. As well as this, the children will be working on their times tables facts (2s, 5s and 10s and 3s and 4s if confident). We will encourage the children to use Times Tables Rock Stars for learning their times tables. .

P.E. lessons will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays. We would really appreciate it if you could ensure that your child has appropriate kit and suitable outdoor trainers available each week. As the weather is likely to be very chilly, children should also have a jumper that they can wear for PE as well as a plastic bag that they can put their muddy trainers in. This will be particularly useful as we continue with the daily run. Please note that the red hoodies that are part of the school PE kit should only be worn in PE lessons and not as part of the general school uniform.

Homestudy will continue to be set on a Friday to be completed by the following Wednesday. The tasks will alternate between online activities (MyMaths), practical tasks and more problem solving based activities. Please use the equipment in the maths bags you have. If you have any questions about the tasks or methods used please let us know.

Library books will continue to be changed on Fridays.

Some important dates for your diary this term include:

Year 2 Class Assembly - Friday 31st January 2020

Parent Consultations - Tuesday 11th and Thursday 13th February 2020

Feeling Good Week - Monday 10th to Friday 14th February

Special Events Week - Monday 30th March to Friday 3rd April 2020

Presentation to parents about the KS1 assessments - Thursday 27th February 2020 (2.30pm)

We would strongly recommend your attendance at this presentation as it gives useful information about assessments, expectations and how you can support your child.

We will continue to put notes and messages on the classroom door. For updates of what has been happening in the Year 2 classrooms, follow us on Twitter **@MapleSchoolYr2**. For whole school news events please go to **www.news.maple.herts.sch.uk**.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. We are looking forward to a busy and exciting term ahead. If you have any brief questions or queries, please feel free to pop into the classroom between 8.40 and 8.50 (when we will be welcoming the children as they arrive in the classroom). Or, if you would like to have a longer discussion, then please book in a time to meet with us.

With kind regards

Mrs Johnson, Mrs Turner and the Year 2 team

