

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 2 Newsletter - Summer Term 2010

This term will be busy and exciting for your children. Science and Geography topics will provide the main focus with our theme being Minibeasts.

The summer term is SATs time for Year 2 children – the time when they have to take the National Tests set for all children at the end of Key Stage One. The children will all be involved in particular tasks but these will be as informal as possible. The end of Key Stage results will be based on teacher assessment and results. The results will be included in your child's annual report.

Literacy

In Literacy we will be looking at stories by famous authors, particularly Mairi Hedderwick, author and illustrator of The Katie Morag series of books. We will also be looking at information books, their layout and how to use them. We will continue to develop the children's writing skills with tasks involving both imaginative and factual writing. By the end of this term we hope that some of them will be using joined handwriting for all their work.

The weekly spelling list will continue to be sent home, with a test on a Thursday. Please help your child to learn their words. Many thanks for the support which has been given – we know how hard some of you work at them!

Please continue to read as often as you can with your child, making time to discuss what has been read eg. Why did that happen? How did he feel? What could she do now? What do you think will happen next? All of the children benefit from regular reading to an adult, daily if possible. Books can be changed in school as often as possible – so keep reading!

Numeracy

We shall once again focus on developing the children's understanding of numbers through problem solving and mental calculations. We will also be covering 2D and 3D shape, time, handling data, fractions and capacity. This term the children will be bringing home times tables to learn. Tables to learn will come home with spellings each week and will be tested on a Thursday.

Science

We have two topics this term – 'Plants and Animals in the Local Environment' through a mini beast study and 'How We Grow'.

ICT

This term the children will be using ICT for research and directional robots to plan routes.

PSHE AND CITIZENSHIP/SEAL

Topics through the term will include *Coping with unexpected changes*, *Being pleased for someone's achievements* and *Helping someone who is feeling sad or lonely*. Also our SEAL topics throughout school will be 'Relationships and Changes'.

Geography

We will be looking at mini beasts which live in different environments around the world during the first half of term and will be going out and about to look at the mini beasts in their natural habitats around school.

Our focus for the second half term will be 'An Island Home' based on the Katie Morag stories. We will be drawing and reading maps and comparing and contrasting where we live with the Island of Struay.

RE

We will be looking at stories from Jewish scriptures eg. 'Joseph' and the Jewish festival of Purim.

Art

The children will be doing more drawing from close observation – plants and mini beasts. They will continue to practise using powder paints and painting whole pictures. They will use oil pastels and produce a collage.

Music

We will be singing, using percussion instruments to tell stories and accompany poems and listening to pieces of music to link with different kinds of weather and with the sea.

PE

This term the children will be developing throwing and catching techniques. We will also be concentrating on bat and ball skills and bat and ball games.

We hope weather permitting; to be outside for both PE sessions (Wednesday and Friday) so please make sure your child has the appropriate kit and footwear.

Yours sincerely

Mrs White and Miss Goodchild
Class Teachers