

Dear Y2 Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you have had a lovely May holiday and had chance to enjoy some time and sunshine as a family. I simply cannot believe we are in the last half term of Y2. What a year it has been! I have absolutely loved teaching this class and fully intend to enjoy every single day with your amazing children before we break up for the summer. Although we know some of our usual events are unable to happen this year, we still have lots of other things planned and I will do all that I can to make sure the last 6 weeks are full of fun!

Here is some key information which I hope you will find helpful. As always, if you have any queries, please just ask!

### Topic and Outdoor Learning

Our topic is 'Oh It's a Jolly Holiday' and is centred around holidays with a particular focus on the seaside! We will be covering lots of geography, history and science in this topic alongside all the other creative subjects and ICT. We will continue to use our outdoor spaces regularly so please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing in school and on hot days, a hat and sun cream.

### PE

Our PE days are **Wednesday** and **Thursday**. Please ensure your child has a suitable pair of shoes or trainers in school on this day. PE will be outside where possible and appropriate. If your child is not able to take out their own earrings, please ensure these are removed on these days too. Thank you.

### Reading

Both the children and staff are working as hard as they possibly can to get all the children as ready as we can for Y3 so please support us with this by reading regularly at home. It makes such a difference and little and often is the key. Please aim for at least 3 times a week, but of course more would be very beneficial! Please could I also remind you to fill in your child's reading diary every time they read, or even better, encourage them to fill them in themselves as a way of helping them to further develop their independence ready for KS2! Reading is crucial for all subjects (such reading word problems in maths, reading and understanding difference historical artefacts, reading song lyrics in music to name but a few) so please do try to read at home with your child whenever possible.

### Spelling books

We have noticed that over that last few weeks, quite a few children have not had their spelling books in their book bag on a **Friday**. Please could you ensure they do so that we can enter their new spelling list. Please support your child in learning their spellings by asking them to complete the table in their spelling book and by using Spelling Shed. They will be regularly assessed in their spellings.

Children are encouraged to be regularly practising spellings, time tables and areas of the curriculum online. As a school we have subscribed to websites to support the children with their learning. The children have been given their individual logins for **TT Rockstars** and **Spelling Shed**. Please support your child with their learning on these platforms (**ideally they should access both sites at least twice a week**). Logins are stuck in the front of their reading diaries and spelling books.

#### New Menus

Please could you look through the new menus with your child and ensure they know what to order. We have had quite a few saying they don't like anything this week. We do of course encourage all children to try things and eat what they can, but it would help if we can be sure they do like what they are choosing. You can pre-order at home as well which helps us at school. Thank you

#### Sports Day

Please note it is sports day on **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June**. Please ensure they have trainers on and they can come in their sports wear.

#### Transition to Y3

As you will have read on the newsletters, this year we are able to do two days transition which will be on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July**. On these days, please use the other entrance on Garden Grove dropping off at **8.50am** and collecting at **3.15pm**. I have already told Miss Cook and Miss Beresford how amazing all the children are and I know they are very excited to receive them as their new Y3 class. Both staff are really lovely and although I am going to miss them very much, I couldn't ask them to be going to more lovely teachers! At this point, I have to say that every single child has tried hard this year and bearing in mind what a disruptive time they have had over the past 18 months have really lived up to our motto 'Be The Best You Can Be!' I have no doubt that with this continued amount of effort next year and the same positive attitude they have shown me, they will continue to make good progress and will be ready for the next stage of their learning journey. Bearing in mind, the last time our Y2 children were in 'normal' full time school was FS2 with Mr Grayhurst and now they are moving into KS2 and are ready to do so! This should not be underestimated and I couldn't be prouder of them as a class!

Thank you as always for the continued support you have given to me. It has made a huge difference!

So let's make this last 6 weeks fabulous, before sending our Y2s off for a well-deserved and needed summer holiday!

As always, if there is anything I can help you with, please do ask.

Kindest Regards

Mrs C Trotter

## RE

This half term our key question in RE is *'Does completing Hajj make a person a better Muslim?'*

During this unit we will look at special journeys and the emotions attached to these, before exploring what a Hajj is and why Muslims undertake this journey.

## PE

This half term, we will be practising for Sport's Day with outdoor athletics and will be learning to play rounders.

## ART / DT

We will be looking at different seaside pieces of art and will continue to explore the use of different medium (paint, pastels, sketching pencils, crayons, collage, outdoor art).

## ENGLISH

We will begin by looking at a wonderfully exciting books entitled 'The Secret of Black Rock'. It has some great twists and turns along the way and a legend which has been passed on for many years! We will carry out drama activities, write letters and create a group poem.

Following on from this, we will read several poems and perform these in groups with actions. We will then plan, write and perform our own poems to the class.

We will also be reviewing everything we have covered in SPaG this year in preparation for Y3.

## SCIENCE

In science, we will be learning more about materials, describing their properties, identifying their uses and looking at the impact of squashing, squeezing, twisting and pulling on an object.

## Oh It's a Jolly Holiday



## ICT

We will be recapping Beebots this half term and use them to create more complicated routes around a map. We will learn to use Word Art on the ipads to create a seaside piece of writing.

## GEOGRAPHY

In geography we will be learning about physical and human features, comparing a seaside resort with Barnsley, looking at compass points, routes and maps, developing our use of geographical language and using globes and atlases to locate coastal and inland places.

## MATHS

We have our last Y2 unit to cover which involved measuring mass, capacity, volume and temperature. There will be lots of practical maths during this unit and we will be learning to read scales which increase in different increments.

We will then use the last few weeks to recap any areas of maths which the children feel less confident with.

Children are encouraged to use TTRockstars to consolidate their learning at home.

## MUSIC

We are really enjoying our unit called 'Friendship' so will be working on this more before recording a final performance. We will also learn some sea shanties and a range of summer songs.

## HISTORY

We will read the story of Grace Darling and her amazing seaside rescue as well as comparing seaside holidays now and in the past.