

Brilliant Barn Owls
Spring Term Two Newsletter



Welcome back to the second half of our spring term. Are March and April the months of showers? I hope not!

We cannot believe we are half way through the school year already! We have so much to do and so little time!

Our whole school topic is
'Let's explore the world'
Our whole school Christian Value is
Forgiveness

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you."
Ephesians 4.32

Our topic – Would you rather live in the UK or Kenya?

This half term we will be broadening our understanding of the world around us and looking at our wider wonderful world. We will learn about the different continents and oceans. We will learn about our country and compare it to a country in Africa. We will also learn a bit about Malaysia where our new pen pals are from. We will think about similarities and differences in human and physical geography. In science, we will continue to learn about habitats of different animals and how they are suited to where they live. We will find out about food chains, In Year Two we need to:

- identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other
- describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food

Writing

Children in Year Two need to write for a range of purpose and in a range of genre so children will again be writing for lots of reasons. We will write letters, postcards, information texts, descriptions and recounts.

Our main writing will focus on writing a warning story based on a traditional African tale.

We will continue learning spelling rules we need to know in Year Two and will continue to learn the Year Two common exception words. As always we will have a focus on the 'non-negotiable' writing skills such as, spelling, handwriting and sentence Sam. These are **essential** to make expected progress in Year Two writing.

Reading

Let the children read lots of books and lots of different kinds of books including poetry. Still keep working on **fluency and expression** when reading aloud but also to consider **comprehension** questions about the text they are reading. Children will still be able to bring their books on a Monday and I will continue to send home two books per week.

Please also continue to read to your child. This is a fantastic way for children to 'pick up' key skills such as, fluency and expression, which are extremely important in Year Two.

If your child is on the 'Accelerated Reader' programme, please continue to share the book with them and support their comprehension by asking questions about the book. If you need another bookmark with suggested question types, please let me know and I will send you another one. Children can take their quiz on a Monday morning; they do this independently in a school iPad. The quizzes only take about five minutes and children can earn points to achieve reading certificates.

We will continue to teach reading through whole class reading where we will read as a class and practise different reading skills across the week. During this time we practise blending and decoding words using phonics, literal retrieval from the text and inference about the text. Groups of children will also be heard reading to further focus on these skills.

I will hopefully be able to send home a school library book alongside your child's reading book this half term. These books are 'free choice' and can be read or shared together. The children choose these books for pleasure.

Thank you for all your support with reading

Maths

In maths we will continue to learn about multiplication and division. We will learn our x2, x5 and x10 tables and division facts. We will also



keep practising counting in our x3 tables. Following this we will learn about fractions.

Children in Year Two need to:

- recall multiplication and division facts for 2, 5 and 10 and use them to solve simple problems, demonstrating an understanding of commutativity as necessary
- make deductions outside known multiplication facts
- recognise, find, name and write fractions $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length, shape, set of objects or quantity
- write simple fractions for example, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 6 = 3 and recognise the equivalence of $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{2}{4}$



Key Skills

On Sumdog and TT Rockstars there are challenges set which support the children to practise key skills such as times tables, spellings and grammar activities, Please keep accessing these.

PSHE

In Barn Owls this half terms unit is called 'Healthy Me' and includes a focus on healthy eating, exercise and making healthy choices.

RE

Our unit this half term is 'Salvation' and we will be learning that Easter is very important in the 'big story' of the Bible. Christians believe that Jesus showed that he was willing to forgive all people, even for putting him on the cross. And that Jesus builds a bridge between God and humans.

PE

PE will continue on a Wednesday and please send your child with a jumper as PE will continue to be outside for as long as possible.

Homework

Thank you for the homework you have shared so far. It is lovely to see what the children are doing at home. I will send home another homework sheet with activities linked to our topic of 'The World' These are suggested tasks NOT expected and I would much rather you supported reading, spellings and maths learning.

Snack

Please make sure you **only send your child with a fresh or a dried fruit snack for snack time.** Children

in Year Two do still get a fruit snack at school too. We have snack at morning playtime. Please remember to only send water in water bottles to drink through the day -a hydrated brain is an active one!

Kind Regards,

Mrs. Harpham and Mrs Mills

