

Barn Owls Summer 2 Newsletter



Welcome back everyone! Only seven weeks left of Year 2! And the best is yet to come!

Our whole school topic is
'Questions and Creativity'

Our whole school Christian Value is
Truthfulness

'The way of peace is the way of the truth. Truthfulness is even more important than peacefulness'.

Mahatma Gandhi

Topic

This half term, our Topic is continuing on the theme of the seaside but we will moving our focus to Grace Darling and the RNLI. In History, we will be learning about who Grace Darling was, what her everyday life was like, what she did to become famous and how she is remembered today. We also have a very exciting school trip planned towards the end of the term which is linked to our Topic...more to be revealed soon...!

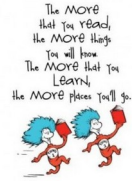
Writing

For our writing this half term, we will be creating a fantasy narrative, influenced by the book *Ocean Meets Sky*. This links nicely to our topic as well!

Reading

In Barn Owls we will be continuing the Little Wandle reading groups. During these sessions we will read a text together and complete activities to improve comprehension. Once these groups are set up, children will receive their reading book to take home to read with an adult. When it is deemed appropriate, your child may start to access the 'Accelerated Reader' programme. This is where children take home a book of their choice and complete an online quiz at school that tests their comprehension skills. This may be brought home along with a reading scheme book. **Please note that, for these children on the AR scheme,**

AR quizzes are currently being done with Mrs Bourke on a Wednesday afternoon and will be changed subsequently on this day too.



If we can stress one thing this year it is to hear your child read. Reading unlocks all other learning and it is vital children continue to make progress in reading. It may be that you feel your child still needs support with phonics to help them decode and we will be recapping phonics for the first half term. If you need any support with this please let me know via email to school. Please also 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 2.

SPaG (spelling and grammar)

The focus for learning moves from phonics to reading to spelling and grammar in Year 2. Children will bring home a spelling list on a Friday to look at, practise and apply. **We will be continuing our focus on spelling with our weekly spelling quiz on these words the following Friday.** The weekly spelling lists we send home will be linked to the spelling rules we have learned in class. There will also be Common Exception words for Year 2. As in Year 1, these need to be read and spelt correctly by the end of Year 2. This is a key expectation in writing for children to meet age related expectations for Year 2.

This half term, we will be recapping the grammar learnt across Year 2 including apostrophes, tenses and commas for lists as well as learning about compound words.

Maths

We are now beginning a brand new unit on Time this half term before moving on to Length and Height and Statistics. We will also be doing daily mental arithmetic to support the children in

their Maths lessons. We use the website www.topmarks.co.uk for our arithmetic which has several fun games such as Daily 10 and Hit the Button. This can be accessed at home should you wish.

Science

In Science, we are beginning a new unit, Animals Including Humans. This links into our PSHE, the children learning about food groups, the impact of exercise on the body and hygiene, as well as starting to understand about offspring in different species and what a baby needs to survive.

PSHE

This half term's unit is called 'Changing Me', a very important unit where we discuss life cycles in nature, growing from young to old, increasing independence, differences in female and male bodies, assertiveness and preparing for transition. Extra time will be dedicated to these sessions due to their importance and to allow the children plenty of question time.

PE

Year 2 will be having two PE sessions a week, one longer session with Mrs Laycock during my Planning, Preparation & Assessment (PPA) time on a Monday afternoon where the children will be beginning their Dance unit (again, with a theme of plants), and a shorter session with myself on a Thursday afternoon where we do a variety of team games, fitness, yoga and dance. **Children need to wear black shorts, a red P.E. top and trainers to school on Mondays and school uniform with trainers on Thursdays.**

Other subjects

Snack

Please make sure you **only send your child with a fresh or a dried fruit snack for snack time.** Children in Year 2

- **RE** – our unit 'How should we care for others and the world, and why does it matter?' explores how different religions show care for one another and the world around us.
- **Computing** – we will do our two final computing units this half term: programming quizzes and pictograms.
- **Music** – We will complete our summer 1 unit exploring different landscape sounds, including the seaside, before looking at a soundscape and performing a composition before moving on 'Musical Me', exploring the song 'Once a Man Fell in a Well', playing it using tuned percussion and reading simple symbols representing pitch.
- **DT** – we will be inspired by the cooking of Nadiya Hussain for our final DT unit.

Homework

All children have received a homework book and will be given a weekly homework sheet. These have some key tasks we suggest **must** be done with your child as they support them in their key skills in school. Also on the sheet will be a range of different activities linked to our topic and **these are optional.**

Please feel free to do as many or as few as you like. Some children and parents are keen to carry on their learning at home and these are just to give you a few ideas of how you can do this. House Points will be given if children bring their homework in to share but children do not have to share it. The book is for you to practise spellings, numbers and stick photos in of homework. It is a working book for children to record home learning in but will **not** be marked 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! Water

bottles must also be name labelled. Milk may be ordered for playtimes (contact the office for details).

Independence

We try to encourage children to be more independent in Year 2 therefore we encourage children to put all their things away, sit down for their morning activity by themselves and take on specific responsibilities in the classroom which will be rotated.

If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me via the office.

Kind regards,
Miss Reynard

Weekly things to remember

- Mondays – full PE kit and trainers with **no earrings**
- Wednesdays – AR book and/or library book to change
- Thursdays – trainers and **no earrings** for active session
- Fridays – reading book to change and home learning book

