



YEAR 2 SPRING TERM 1 CLASS NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year!

We all hope you had an excellent Christmas holiday and are ready for another exciting topic full of learning this half-term.

Our topic this half-term is 'The Great Fire of London'...



English

Reading and Writing

We will be reading and sharing different stories. We will be starting with 'The Snowman and the Snow Dog'. We will also be reading for information too, linked to our new topic. We will be doing more writing in response to what we read in our reading lessons, including comprehension activities. We will be learning how to write a description of a story setting as well as a recount of a journey.

We will then be writing non-fiction texts about 'The Great Fire of London', including diaries, non-chronological reports and newspaper articles.

Individual and Guided Reading

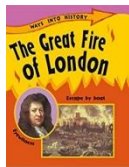
Your child will continue to bring home reading books from school. Please make a comment to show us when they have read at home and we will do the same when they read in school. Could we also please remind you that your child needs to keep their reading book and diary in their book bag and bring it to school every day, just in case it is their turn to read to us. Thank you!

We will be continuing with our daily reading lessons and we will be focusing on comprehension skills, such as finding the answers to retrieval questions in different types of texts and beginning to find evidence to back up our ideas and opinions (inference).

We will also be awarding STAR reader certificates for children who read at least five times every week, (which is our new expectation for reading at home across school).

SPAG

We will continue to focus on SPAG within our English lessons, working on key skills to help the children improve their writing.



This half-term we will be revising noun, adjective, verb and adverb as well as past and present tense and different types of sentences – statement, question, command and exclamation. We will also be looking at different types of punctuation marks and their function.

We will be continually reinforcing our phonics work through reading and writing activities.

We will continue to learn the Y2 spelling patterns and rules as well as making sure we are spelling the Common Exception Words from Y1 and Y2 correctly.

Ways in which you can help at home:

- Read with your child as often as is possible, if only for ten minutes a day
- Read to your child to help extend and broaden their vocabulary
- Complete homework and practise spelling patterns and rules each week, using Spelling Shed

Mathematics

The maths we will cover this half-term will include the following:

1. We will be continuing to learn new mental and written calculation strategies linked to addition and subtraction, using concrete and pictorial resources
2. We will be counting in different steps, recognising multiples of different numbers and this will help us in our unit, learning all about multiplication.
3. We will be learning about 3D shapes including their names and properties
4. We will be doing some work all about statistics and data

Ways in which you can help at home:

- Practise counting in steps of 2, 5, 10 and 3 from zero
- Start learning times table facts for x 2, x 10 and x 5 off by

heart

- Complete homework game or activity each week

At some point this half-term, we will be starting a times table challenge each week and we will let you know when and which one in the weekly homework.

Science

Our Science work will include...

- ✓ Investigations
- ✓ Understanding how to make our investigations 'fair tests'
- ✓ Describing the properties of different materials
- ✓ Thinking about materials which are suitable for different purposes

Religious Education

We are going to finish off the unit about welcoming babies into the world and how different religions do this. We will then be thinking about what makes a happy classroom and why rules are important. We will be looking at moral codes from Christianity and Islam and we will then consider what would make the best rules for life.

Cross-curricular Topic Work

We will be learning about 'The Great Fire of London' in history and using our detective skills to find out even more about the past. We will not only be discovering what happened but finding out why. We will also be learning about some famous people who were alive at the time of the fire and why they were important. We have some brilliant songs to learn and some exciting art work to do, including making our very own Pudding Lane filled with Tudor Houses. We will also be using the laptops in our computing lessons to support our topic work.



Physical Education

This half-term your child will be doing OUTDOOR PE on a Monday and INDOOR PE on a Thursday.

Please make sure they have both kits in a named bag in school. This should include a white t-shirt, dark shorts and pumps/trainers as well as tracksuit bottoms and a hoodie. Unfortunately, children will not be allowed to do PE in their school uniform.

REMINDER... Your child will NOT be allowed to do PE wearing earrings. If they cannot take them out by themselves, please take them out before school.

Box Appeal

We need cereal boxes or other boxes of a similar size for our topic work this half-term, so start searching now and if you have some, please bring them in. We would like lots of different sizes to choose from.

If you can help us, we would really appreciate it!

Parent Information Evening

On Tuesday 18th January at 6pm, we will be having an information evening for Y2 parents so that we can let you know about SATs, what will happen and what we will be doing before May to help your child and how you can help at home too.

We will then have some time to discuss any questions you have about Reading, Writing, SPaG or Maths.

We do hope you will be able to attend. Please bring any questions with you and we'll have time to go through whatever you want to ask or find out.

Homework

Well done again to everyone who has been joining in with our Holiday Homework Challenges – we always look forward to seeing what you have created.

Homework will continue to be sent home on a Friday this term. Please encourage your child to hand it in on or by the following Wednesday.

Our homework expectation has now changed and you have recently received a letter highlighting the major changes. In Y2, we will now be expecting the children to read at least five times every week. This may be a few pages or only ten minutes a day but little and often is better than once a week. We will be checking reading diaries weekly. We will also be expecting the children to practise their weekly spellings on Spelling Shed and we will send home an activity or game linked to our current maths work. Thank you for your support.



Water Bottles

Your child will need a water bottle in school so they can have a drink of water during the school day. Please attach a name or initials if possible!

School Uniform

To prevent loss of expensive clothing and having upset children, please ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled. This includes PE kits too!

Important date for your diary...

2 Beech would like to invite friends and family to our Family Assembly on Friday 11th February. It starts at 9.10am in the hall. See you there!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us via telephone message, email (office@headlandsce.net) or you can catch us after school.

Miss Davis and Mrs Smith

