



Monday 26th April 2022

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all well and that you had a wonderful Easter with your families. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your kind donations to our Science Week last term. The children had a brilliant time planting and classifying seeds, racing balloons, creating eruptions and conducting investigations with sweets. Hopefully the vegetable seeds they planted will become a core part of our Summer 2 DT topic: Edible Gardens. In the meantime, the children will continue to enjoy investigating a wide variety of chemical changes this term as part of our main Summer Science based Topic called Fizz, Pop, Bang! They will also be learning about volcanoes, earthquakes, tornadoes and tsunamis in our Geography topic- Extreme Earth.

Reading

The children have been making great progress with their reading this year and it has been wonderful to see their confidence, fluency and understanding develop. We will continue to change books on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. We are now able to welcome parent readers back into school so if anyone is able to give an hour each week to hear readers, it would be really appreciated. Ideally, a perfect time would be from 2pm onwards on either Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoons. Please let me know if you think you would be able to support the children with this.

Spellings

The children have also been making fantastic progress with their spellings- thank you so much for helping them master their words. I'm delighted to say that all the children who were on Tricky Word List One are now on Tricky Word List 2, and the children who were on Tricky Word List 2 will now be taking home their year group spellings. Please can the children bring in their spelling folders on a Monday when we will be checking their spellings in class. Following parental feedback, we will also write their score on their new spelling sheets so you can see how they are getting on. We will try and get the folders given back to the children on Mondays but by Tuesday at the latest.

Times Table Rockstars

The children have will be continuing to practise their tables in class. In order that they are fluent in all 12 tables by the end of year 4, we would like to see them competent in their 2s, 5s and 10 times tables by the end of year 2 and with their 3s, 4s and 8s by the end of year 3. If your child isn't enjoying Times Table Rockstars, please feel free to support them with an alternative method to practice. You could try <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables> for some alternative free games to keep up their interest.

PE

The children will continue to enjoy their PE lessons with Luke on Mondays and Fridays. This term they will be participating in Athletics and Cricket sessions.

PSHE

Mrs Rumney will be continuing to teach the children for the first part of Friday afternoon. This will be a PSHE lesson for the first half term and a Music lesson for the second half of term. The topic for this half term is Healthy Relationships and in one lesson we will be discussing the NSPCC's Underwear Rule - PANTS. The lesson will be delivered in a way that is fully age-appropriate. More information about the Underwear Rule, including a short film and a parent guide can be found at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

DT

The children will be undertaking a top secret DT project this half term. Please could they bring in a named small plastic box. We would also very much appreciate it if you were able to donate any of the following items:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| * flower petals | * essential oils (these could be |
| * herb cuttings | partially used) |
| * empty spray bottles | * fun shaped ice-cube trays |

Year 2 KS1 SATs

This term, during May, the year 2 children will undertake their KS1 SATs in Maths and in English: Reading and Writing. The KS1 SATs are National Curriculum tests that all Year 2 children are set by the government. The tests are a tool to help teachers measure children's performance and identify any support needed as they move into Key Stage 2. They also indicate how the children are performing against the national expected standards. The results from these tests, along with the work the children have done throughout the year, help us reach judgements about how your child is progressing at the end of Key Stage 1. These teacher assessment judgements will be reported to you by the end of the summer term. While this all sounds very formal, I would like to reassure you that these tests will be administered in a small group setting by myself in a supportive manner.

Whilst we have to complete these assessments during the summer term, I am hoping they will go by undetected and the children will enjoy all the other fun learning activities planned. Our key objectives can be found on the curriculum map which will be sent with this letter. If you have any questions regarding any of this information, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Best wishes,

Vicky Gambier