

Dear Parents,

We hope you have had a fabulous Easter holiday and that the Easter bunny visited on Easter Sunday.



A few weeks ago I informed the class that Mrs Wilkins (formally Smale) was due to be leaving our school after Easter. She has been a member of the Year 2 team for a number of years and has always been passionate about the children's learning and a valued member of staff. She is leaving to take up a new role working with children in the borough and we wish her every possible success in everything that she does in the future.

We are looking forward to our Summer term and I'm sure it will whizz by as fast as the previous two terms. We are very proud of our Year 2 class for the way they behave and for their brilliant attitude to learning. The term ahead will be a short but very busy one with our theme based on competition. We will also be introducing the children to the events of World War 2. The children will look at the war through the eyes of the evacuees, Alan Turing's work on early computing and discuss food rationing, growing and cooking. We aim to tackle the subjects raised through the WW2 topic sensitively and an appropriate level for our Year 2 learners. However, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to talk to one of us. We welcome all feedback and want our children to be excited and stimulated by our topic.

As part of our literacy journey we will continue to focus on reading skills, using group reading to understand the text and answer questions, with others. The groups will be small and the children will be able to share and discuss their ideas with their peers. This will encourage their understanding of the text as we search for key words, predict events in a story and infer the meaning of phrases and sentences. We will be reading a selection of both fiction and non-fiction writing based on our theme of competition.

### Literacy

Through our writing we will create our own game and think of the rules that will be needed to make the game successful. The children will consider what it is like to be a good sportsman and the qualities that we should show when competing with others.

We will move onto considering the life of an evacuee moving to the countryside and think about how children would have felt moving to the countryside from a city. Then imagine that we are evacuees moving to Peterston, writing a letter home to our parents in the city. I'm sure this will generate lots of wonderful descriptive writing.

We will link the themes of competition and WW2 by creating a story for the radio filled with coded messages. The children will write their own adventure story including

their 'key words' and then read it. Each child will read their story in front of a green screen and others will have the opportunity to be a videographer and director. We will watch and enjoy these as a class toward the end of term. Voting for a winner for the best story.

As before, school book bags are due to be brought to school each Tuesday and will be returned home on Friday after the children have read in class. We will exchange books for new ones but can send home the same book for a second week if requested.

## **Maths**

This term we will be looking at Alan Turing and his role in creating early computing algorithms. In a small group the children will be given the opportunity to create their own function machines to solve multiplications. We will be introducing the use of calculators in class for the children to check their answers once they have completed their work using other methods.

We will be focusing on understanding worded maths problems and using reasoning to problem solve. Our team encourage the children to explore maths through applying their understanding to real life situations and we will be doing this through measuring activities to find out the length of a spitfire and how big an Anderson shelter would need to be if we built a real one.

Through our rationing activities we will be weighing and measuring different foods and looking at the amount of each family would use in a week. We will be weighing different objects to find out if large objects are always the heaviest. There will be lots of activities based on weighing and measuring skills for the children to use on an ongoing basis.

We are encouraging the children to continue to use the online Mathletics program as it builds on the skills we have been learning in the classroom whilst also getting them used to answering questions using an online system.

As I'm sure you are aware the numeracy tests for Year 2 will be occurring in the last week of the Term. These will be carried out online in the classroom as part of the normal school day. We are providing regular learning opportunities to help the children in their tests and we aim to make it a relaxed experience for them all.

## **Jubilee**

At the end of term it will be the Queens jubilee celebrations. During the last week of term we have lots of wonderful activities planned for the children. It should be a super week of fun for all the children with a picnic on the last day of term. A day to remember!

### General reminders

As the weather is increasingly improving, could the children please bring in a sun hat with their name written inside. We will be encouraging the children to wear on outside as the weather gets hotter. Please could you also check that all jumpers have names on them. As the sun hats go on, invariably jumpers are taken off. It makes it far simpler for the children to find their jumper when they are clearly labelled.

If you have any questions or something that you wish to discuss I am available both before and after school.

Many thanks for your continued support and we look forward to another lovely half term.

Mrs Hadall and Mrs Funtek.