

Year 2 Newsletter (Summer)



Our topic this term: **Journey to the South.**

We would just like to take this opportunity to welcome Miss Woodman back into Year 2 after returning from Maternity leave and Mrs Slough who joins the Key stage 1 team, also in Penguin class.

- Zebra Class will be taught by Miss Ashman and Mr Mitchelmore and supported by Miss Paine
- Penguin Class will be taught by Miss Woodman and Mrs Slough supported by Miss Saunders

You will receive a newsletter every term. This will be available on the website under our class page. Please check this page regularly as we will upload the texts we will be learning and photos of what we have achieved. We will also regularly update you with further diary dates such as class assemblies.

English

Our story telling this term will be based on the text 'Meerkat mail' by Emily Gravett. We shall be studying an innovated version of the text which highlights key features to enable us to invent our own texts with familiar settings. We are going to learn the key phrases in the story and use these to help us retell it using the talk for writing approach to learning. We shall embed core skills which we have previously learned in our English lessons and work on our writing targets. We will learn lots about different exotic animals and intend to use this information in our writing.

For our non-fiction this term we will be writing a recount linked to our topic of 'Journey to the South'. We will look at the differences between fiction and non-fiction and identify the features in readiness for our writing.

We will also be spending some of our time looking into a poetry unit and trying our hand at creating some of our own.

At home:

Spelling - Help children recap key word spellings. Have a look through their homework, are there any words that are spelt wrong? Go through and correct these words together. Check reading diaries for a list of common exception words that your child needs to know in Year 2. Learn weekly spellings for spelling test on Mondays.

Handwriting - We are having a big push on handwriting. Help children by showing them how to form letters correctly, including in their homework books.

Reading- Read with your child each evening and write a comment in their reading diary. Adults at school will regularly update your child's reading record if they are read with. It is the responsibility of you and your child to read the text your child has chosen from the range for their current level.

English homework is set fortnightly on a Friday.

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Maths

Over the next term your child be completing counting, place value, addition and subtraction, data handling, number problems, shape work, time and monetary values in their lessons. We aim to work with a problem solving approach to enable our children to work out situations linked to Maths in everyday life. Each week your child will work on a different topic and this will be reflected in their weekly homework which your child will bring home with them on a Friday.

At home:

Times tables- We are trying extremely hard to achieve our times tables champions in Year 2. Please practise your 2 x, 3x, 4x, 5x and 10 x tables to support your child in achieving this superb award. Have a look through your child's homework with them, are there any calculations which would benefit from a written method to show how the answer was achieved? Could you extend your child if they have achieved more than what is expected? Remember maths is a skill used daily, try to give your child daily problems to solve. If your child has received their Year 2 times table championship try to challenge them further to achieve their Year 3 or even Year 4 award. Maths homework is set fortnightly on a Friday.

PE

The children have two PE sessions a week on Monday and Wednesday (Zebra class) and Tuesday and Wednesday (Penguin class). We do our best to stick to these days but sometimes they have to change at the last minute. To help us out, please could PE kits be in school all week. One session will be outside each week, so please ensure your child has black tracksuit trousers and a red Beecroft jumper especially as the weather gets colder.

At home:

PE kit should be a white t-shirt, black or blue coloured shorts, black tracksuit trousers, red jumper and trainers or plimsolls. It is not the responsibility of the adults in school to look after your child's kit so please make sure all their kit is labelled clearly with their name and class and is kept in a named bag in a box.

Creative curriculum

Our topic this term is 'Journey to the South.' We will spend the term looking at Antarctica and Australia. We will study where these countries are located on a world map and the similarities and differences between them. We aim to identify different wildlife which reside in these countries and also any famous explorers which are linked to these places. We will study plants in Science and hope to be planting some of our own vegetables in the Beecroft garden. Although we are not sure when they will be ready- will it be in time for our Summer break? We hope to end the topic with a very special trip which incorporates most of what we have been learning. As we continue our topic we will cover each aspect of the curriculum, this includes: History, Geography, Art, Design and technology, Computing, Music and Science.

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At home:

Each week your child will bring home their homework log. In this you will receive fortnightly Maths and English homework and their work linked to the creative curriculum. You and your child may choose to complete any of the activities on the front sheet of your log when you would like. On completion of each task your child will receive a stamp reward in class for their efforts.

Reminders and dates

Uniform: Please make sure that all uniform is clearly labelled in case it is misplaced. That way it can be returned to the correct class as soon as it is located.

Website: Remember to check the class pages regularly for newsletters, texts, updates and photos from work in class.

Homework: This will be sent home every Friday and is due in on the Wednesday of the week after. Homework will now be set by the class teacher and will be weekly. It will alternate between Maths and English.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 25th April- Children return to school for Summer term

Tuesday 25th April- Outside visit from the Planetarium

Monday 1st May- Bank holiday- Children not at school

Friday 12th May- Zebra class assembly

Week commencing Monday 14th May – Year 2 SATs

Thursday 18th May- Maths roadshow

Friday 19th May- Penguin class assembly

Friday 26th May- End of half term

Monday 5th June- Children return to school

Tuesday 13th June- Year 2 History visitor

Friday 23rd June- Year 1 and Year 2 Sports Day

Friday 14th July- Reports sent home to parents and carers

Monday 17th July- Optional parent consultations related to reports

Friday 21st July- End of Summer term

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Meerkat Mail

Sunny lives in the Kalahari Desert. It is very dry and extremely humid. Sometimes Sunny thinks it is too hot. Sunny comes from a large family. They work together, play together, eat together, learn together and sleep together. In fact, they do everything together. What a close family they are! Sometimes Sunny thinks they are too close. Sometimes, Sunny wishes he could live somewhere else.

So he packs his suitcase and writes a note to his family.

Dear everyone,

Im off to find somewhere PERFECT to live. (Don't worry Mum. Ill be staying with our mongoose relatives, so will be quite safe)

Love from Sunny.

On Monday Sunny visits Uncle Bob. Sunny doesn't fit in.

On Tuesday Sunny visits Scratch and Mitch. He get's itchy feet.

On Wednesday Sunny visits cousin Edward. He doesn't enjoy eggs.

On Thursday Sunny visits Mildred and Frank. He hates getting wet.

On Friday Sunny visits Madagascar. He can't think of anything worse than the dark...

Until Saturday he arrives at Aunt Flo's. Sunny worries nowhere is right for him.

But on Sunday Sunny arrives somewhere very dry and extremely humid where everyone is too close.

What a perfect home this is!