

Reminders:

- Please ensure your child arrives between 8:40am and 8:50am
- Please remember to leave a message on the absence line if your child is not well enough to come to school.
- All clothing should be clearly named.
- All children from Reception to Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal.

Swimming and PE Lessons

- Year 2 are swimming in Terms 5 and 6. Potter will swim on a Monday, Postgate on a Tuesday and Picasso on a Wednesday.
- Please make sure your child has a one-piece swimsuit and a towel for every session.
- Please ensure your child brings a verruca sock or goggles to swimming if they need them.
- This term, we are lucky enough to have a member of staff from Herne Bay High with us on a Friday afternoon to help the children develop their gymnastic skills. Please ensure your child has their named PE kit with them at the start of each week.



The Year 2 Team

Please do not hesitate to speak to us at the end of the day if you have a question or problem. If you have an urgent message for us, please tell the staff on the gate or at the door as we continue to develop the independence of the children walking into class by themselves.

Many thanks for your continued support.



Joy Lane Primary School Year 2 Newsletter

Terms 5 and 6

Welcome back! We hope you have all had a lovely Easter break and are ready for the term ahead. The summer terms are always busy for us as we begin to spend more time outside in the sun, and we complete our SATs assessments. These assessments are a time for the children to show us how far they have come and we could not be prouder of their hard work. This newsletter is an overview of the new learning themes for Terms 5 and 6.

This term we are learning about...

Sunflowers



We will be planting our own seeds to support our learning about how plants grow in Science. We will also be exploring Vincent Van Gogh's work and developing our sketching skills in Art.



In Term 6, our learning theme is ...

Walking with Dinosaurs

In Term 6, we will delve into the land of the dinosaurs. Our English writing will be based on the animation, 'The Good Dinosaur'. We will also be discovering our own dinosaurs and writing to museums to tell them all about our fabulous fossil discoveries. During this historical topic, we will explore 'The History of Me',

looking at how timelines can help us explore events in the past. We are planning lots of exciting things - watch this space!





Year 2 Learning Themes

English: The children have made fantastic progress in their writing this year and their work is consistently praised by teachers and visitors to our school. This term, we will be developing our use of story language by writing our own imaginative fairy tales. Next term, we will focus on non-fiction writing as we create posters about our favourite dinosaurs. We have developed a wide range of writing skills and will continue to embed these in all the writing we undertake. We will continue to develop our comprehension skills in Guided Reading, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for regularly reading with your children. This has a huge impact on not only reading skills, but confidence across the curriculum.



Mathematics: We are working really hard to develop our mental arithmetic skills and times tables. This term, we will begin to make sure we can apply these skills to word problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We aim to take our learning outside this term as we embed the skills we have learnt so far this year. Thank you for your continued support with the completion of My Maths homework: it really helps consolidate the children's learning.



Supporting your Child at home:

All of our learning in school can be further supported at home. Practising key skills and recalling facts little and often can be done in a fun way by accessing a range of games and apps:

<http://www.ictgames.com/> (for Maths and English)

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=40> (SPaG)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/z3g4d2p> (English and Maths tabs)

Homework:

The children's homework continues to impress us week upon week so thank you! As always, daily reading should be recorded in the yellow reading record and spelling practice in the purple spelling book. The homework wheel will consist of a variety of activities linked to every curriculum area. Your child should complete one activity from the wheel each week. We look forward to celebrating these successes within the class! *Please feel free to use your yellow reading record to share any messages and concerns so we can get back to you.*

Spellings:



Spellings can be changed on a Tuesday and Friday. Children will practise eight sets of their given colour and once they are confident with them, they will be tested in class. If they can spell the majority of the words independently, they will move to the next set. If they need further practice, they will have the opportunity to revisit spellings from the previous weeks. We would also ask you to encourage your child to use their spellings in sentences as part of their practice: this shows that they can really apply their learning.

Reading tips!

As you know we encourage reading with your child everyday and here are a few tips to help your child progress:



- Please encourage the use of phonics to help your child decode unknown words (but only the unknown ones—they should also be developing fluency).
- To support fluency, asking your child to read their book a second time should improve their sense of flow.
- If your child finds reading tricky, it is good practice to take reading in turns to increase their confidence and begin to enjoy the flow of a story.
- Encourage your child to talk about the story and ensure they understand all the vocabulary used.
- Enjoy sharing stories together!!

We have noticed that lots of children are enjoying bringing in their own stories, which of course we actively encourage. Children are finding spare moments in their day (even play times!) to enjoy a few pages of their favourite books.