

Reminders

- Please make sure 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 or has a medical appointment.
- All clothing should be clearly named.
- All children from Reception to Year 2 are entitled to a Universal Free School Meal.
- If your child has outdoor learning, please make sure their wellies/clothing are in school.

Swimming and PE Lessons



- Year 2 will be swimming in Terms 4, 5 and 6.
- Please remember to provide your child with a towel and a one-piece swimsuit or swimming trunks.
- Please ensure your child brings goggles and a verruca sock to swimming if they need it.
- The day of PE can vary from week to week so please ensure your child has their named PE kit with them at the start of each week.



The Year 2 Team

Teachers: Mrs Pearce, Mrs Dodd and Mrs Clemo

Support Staff: Mrs Smith, Mrs Wilsher, Mrs Reed and Ms McAuliffe

Please do not hesitate to speak to us at the end of the day if you have a question/problem. If you have an urgent message for us, please tell the staff on the gate, who will pass the information on.

Many thanks for your continued support—we wish you all a very happy and healthy 2020.



Joy Lane Primary School Year 2 Newsletter

Terms 3 & 4 - 2020

Welcome back! We hope you and your child have had a lovely Christmas and are well rested and ready for 2020. We would like to thank you for all the kind gifts and cards we received at the end of term.

We have lots of fun planned for the children in their learning! This newsletter will give a brief overview of the learning themes and activities we will be covering in Terms 3 and 4.

This term we are learning about...

Brilliant Britain



We will be learning all about 'Brilliant Britain' this term. We will explore the life of Queen Elizabeth II in History, and this will inform much of our writing in English.



To kick off our learning this term we will be holding a fabulous 'Royal High Tea', where we will devour cucumber sandwiches, drink tea and waltz in our finest clothes!

Through our exploration of 'Brilliant Britain' we will look at the four countries that make Britain, their capitals cities and flags. We will also look closely at London and examine some of its key landmarks.



In Term 4 our learning theme is ...

Marvellous Meerkats



During our learning theme of 'Marvellous Meerkats', we will explore Africa and its amazing wildlife. We will study 'Meerkat Mail' by Emily Gravett in English and also compile reports on all of the facts we have learnt about meerkats. We will compare the habitats of animals living in Africa to those living in colder climates, in addition to comparing them to our own climate. In geography, we will be further developing our map skills by locating continents, as well as the countries we located during our 'Brilliant Britain' learning.



Year 2 Learning Themes

English

This term, we will be developing our use of the new writing skills we have learnt so far. We will continue to practise our use of commas in a list, questions marks and exclamation marks, as well as ensuring we use full stops correctly. We will be developing the range of word types we use and try to explore more exciting choices when using adjectives and adverbs. We will develop these skills through a range of exciting writing opportunities such as story writing, report writing and narratives from other cultures.



Reading tips!

As you know, we encourage you to read with your child every day, and here are a few top 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 be developing fluency.)
- To support fluency, asking them to read their book a second time should improve your child's sense of flow.
- If your child finds reading tricky, it is okay 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 that they understand all the vocabulary used.
- Enjoy sharing a range of stories together!!

In addition to this, this term we are really focussing on our comprehension skills. When sharing books with your child, it is important to ask lots of questions (what, why, where, who etc.) in order to assess your child's understanding of what they have read.



Some of the stories that we will be exploring at school are:

- *The Queen's Knickers*
- *Emily in London*
- *Meerkat Mail*



Mathematics

We will continue to develop a secure understanding of place value (the tens and ones in a number) and apply this to our calculations in addition and subtraction. We will continue to use jottings to support our mental calculation when the numbers become too large to work out in our heads. We will also begin to develop our understanding of multiplication and division and the different strategies we can use to help us.



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/> (for Spelling and Maths)

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

Homework



As always, daily reading should be recorded in the dolphin reading record and spelling practice in the purple spelling book. Children can practise their times tables using Times Tables Rockstars online. We look forward to celebrating your child's successes within the class! *Please feel free to use your reading record to share any messages and concerns and we will get back to you.*

Spellings Cards

Spellings can be changed each day by your child. Children will practise 8 sets of their given colour and, once they are confident in them, they will be tested in class. If they can spell all of the words independently, they will move on to the next set. If they need further practice, they will have the opportunity to revisit spellings from the previous cards. 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.



Recommended Reads:

Here are some suggestions for age-related fiction books that match units we are studying. Non-fiction fact files are excellent choices too!

Beatrice and the London Bus book series

The Queen's Hat—Steve Antony

The Hunter—Paul Geraghty

Welcome to Our World— Moira Butterfield