



Happy New Year from Year Two

Firstly we would like to welcome everyone back after the holiday and say Happy New Year to you all! We had a great time during the Autumn term and the children thoroughly enjoyed both the 'Art Attack' and 'What a Wonderful World' topics. This term we will be covering two topics: 'Hocus Pocus' where the children will be learning about multimedia animations, plants, The Plague and compass directions/ map work. The other topic is 'Home', where we turn our attention to materials (recycling), The Great Fire of London and Human/ Physical Geography. As usual, we invite the pupils to bring in anything topic related. Please ensure things are clearly named, not breakable and that the children do not mind them remaining in school for the duration of the topic. Show and Tell remains on Fridays.

Timetable:

Play Ball continues to be on Wednesday for both Red and Green Class. Mrs Douglass will be back to teaching National Curriculum Dance in Year Two on Thursday Mornings this half term. Please ensure your child has a full P.E kit on their pegs at all times for additional PE, which needs to include a white t-shirt, red shorts and plimsolls. On both Wednesday and Thursday children are expected to be wearing black legging/jogging bottoms.

-Library day for Red Class and Green Class continues to be on a Wednesday. We are continuing to offer different subject choices for the children's homework. Please continue to encourage your child to choose different options week by week. Speed-spellings and Spelling Challenges will be sent within the log books on Mondays and assessed on Fridays. Homework is also set on a Monday, due in the following Monday. We expect the children to be taking care of their home learning logs and handing in work that is presented in a way that is expected from them in school.

Please remember that we implement a password system across the whole school when children are being picked up at the end of the day. These emergency passwords are to be used when someone *other than* a regular arrangement, or person named in the 'Going Home' book, is picking up your child at the end of the school day. Please ensure that you inform the school of any changes to regular pick-up arrangements by completing the relevant form from the office.

End of Key Stage Assessments

The assessments focus on: spelling, punctuation and grammar; maths skills, reasoning and arithmetic, reading comprehension and understanding. These assessments are based on the National Curriculum requirements for Key Stage One which began being taught when children started in Year One and continues in Year Two. The homework set ensures children practise the skills further at home. We would also encourage you to support spelling, mental maths and checking punctuation at home regularly.

You can go to www.gov.uk for additional information. We always welcome parent helpers in school, so if you have a valid DBS clearance and are available to offer any time please see your child's class teacher.

We are all looking forward to another enjoyable term!

Miss Begum and Miss Sasson



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Questions asked during the meeting:

1. *When are the SATS?*

The SATS are in May. Please make sure your child has good attendance during this time.

2. *Will the children sit more than one paper a day?*

Papers are spread out across the month of May so children will not sit more than one paper a day.

3. *How often do you hear children read?*

We hear children read every two weeks during Guided Reading sessions. During this time, children are asked comprehension questions which focuses on predicting, inference and summarising. After reading each child will receive a label to highlight their strengths and next steps. Also, during the week we also develop children's reading skills when questioned about videos they have watched or texts they have read.

4. *What do they do if they finish their SATS paper early?*

Children are encouraged to re-read the paper and check their answers. After this they sit quietly and write in their journals/ read a book. We encourage children to take their time so answers are recorded in full sentences and working out is correct.

5. *If they know the question, do they have to record the working out?*

We encourage children to record their working out so they don't make any calculating errors. Some answers in SATS papers are awarded two marks for showing working out.

6. *Do you mark children down even if they do better in SATS?*

Teacher assessment has a stronger influence than the SATS. Evidence in books will indicate where children are working at.

7. *How can we continue to help at home?*

- ✓ Remind children to use capital letters and full stops.
- ✓ Encourage no capital letters or reversals in the middle of sentences.
- ✓ When writing a contraction, do not join letters. E.g. Do not join the n and t in don't. Leave a gap on either side of the apostrophe.
- ✓ All children can read fluently so please focus on asking more inference questions and summarising the text.