

26th April 2019



Dear Parents,

I can't believe that it now the Summer Term and that we will soon be planning Sports Day etc! Thankfully we still have lots of learning and things to look forward to in Year 2 before they become Juniors.

In English we will continue to develop language and story writing skills. Children will have opportunities to write letters, reports, riddles, character descriptions and instructions. We will also be working on poems, including performance poems. One of the texts we will cover will be "The Tin Forest" by Helen Ward. It is a wonderful book which will give children the opportunity to develop their imagination and inference skills.

In Maths we will continue to work on developing number skills such as using known facts to solve calculations, linking multiplication to division etc. We will also be working on solving two steps problems in length, capacity and weight. Some children will use written methods as well as mental strategies to work out addition and subtraction calculations. All children will be encouraged to explain what resources they need to help them solve a problem and what strategies they use to help them. The emphasis on developing reasoning and problem solving skills will remain. Spending time on Mathematics will help your child improve mental maths skills and build their confidence in this area.

During this term we will have two Science topics- Living Things and their Habitats and Plants. These topics will provide children with opportunities for cross-curricular writing as well as developing scientific enquiry skills.

Our PE lessons in Year 2 this term (Tuesday mornings) will focus on developing and extending skills such as balancing, throwing, running, co-ordination and building stamina through games and athletics activities. We will also spend some lessons exploring ways of travelling on the large apparatus. As we will be preparing for Sports Day, please make sure that your child has a PE kit in school every day. .

End of Year 2 assessments and tasks will happen during the last two weeks before we break up for the May half term holiday. Please help your child to prepare by listening to them read, asking them to comment on their reading and answer "Why", "What", "Who", "Where" type questions and helping them improve quick recall of 2, 5 and 10 times tables. This includes related division facts –  $2 \times 6 = 12$ ,  $12$  divided by  $6 = 2$ ,  $12$  divided by  $2 = 6$  etc. If you want any further advice or information, please just ask.

Although we do need to do these assessments, I do not want anyone to feel anxious or worried about them. I make sure that children are used to completing assessments so that they are used to the format and nothing will be a surprise. I also make sure that we have some treats! I am very proud of how all the children have responded to everything we have done so far, and they know that all I ever ask of them is to do their best- nobody can do any more than that!

Kind regards,

Fiona Roberts