



Year 2 Curriculum Information

Week Beginning: Monday 30th January 2017

Dear Parents

In assembly this week, Mrs Harries shared the story of 'Bear's Magic Pencil' by Anthony Brown. Children considered just what can be achieved with a pencil and a little imagination! She also told the children about the artist Paul Klee and how he would 'take a line for a walk'. Some of the Reception children enjoyed trying this out for themselves.

Bird Family meetings focused on the important topic of relaxation... something we could probably all benefit from a little more of! The children talked about what relaxation is and its importance, before learning and practising some techniques.

Literacy Lessons

This week we have practised our spelling of verbs ending in 'ied' such as 'hurried' and 'carried'. In word building activities, we have extended our knowledge of when to use 'gn' and 'kn' at the beginning of words such as 'gnome' and 'known'.

In work linked to our topic on 'Brilliant Buildings' children have been exploring the story of 'The Three Little Pigs'. We have discussed the actions of both the pigs and the wolf and asked questions about why they behaved as they did. Children have written letters from the viewpoint of the characters and attempted to justify their actions.

Maths lessons

In maths lessons this week we have developed our knowledge of 3D shapes. We have handled and explored the shapes as well as naming them and recording the specific properties of each one, including faces, vertices (corners) and edges. It is our aim that children will be able to recall these facts, identifying and naming shapes based on their properties alone. We have also revisited o'clock and half past times on analogue and digital clocks and have begun to tell the time to the quarter hour.

Other lessons and activities

This week we gained a fascinating insight into the lives of Muslims. We were joined by Dr Riaz and Dr Sadiq (Anya and Mohid's parents) who performed a presentation on Islam and the 5 Pillars, *Faith, Prayer, Fasting, Charity and Pilgrimage*. The children had composed a series of written questions and were delighted to have the opportunity to further their understanding.

During our Friday building challenge, children were set the task of building a table top structure that could stand alone using cocktail sticks and jelly tots. Some super construction took place and we discussed shapes and forms that historically, have been used with success around the world.

Over the weekend:

- You could play a game by describing 3D shapes using only their properties and see if your child can identify and name the shape.

Tennis coaching – a note from Mr Woods

At the request of our tennis coach, Martin Smith, the current Year 2 group will be split into two smaller groups to allow for an improved coaching experience. The remaining sessions will run similar to last term, with groups attending on either Alpha week or Beta week. The Year 2 staff will inform the children when their sessions are. Those children who were on the waiting list will now be added to a group for the remaining sessions. Please note that lunchtime tennis for year two stops at Easter and does not run during the summer term.

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 7th (group 1), Wednesday 8th (group 2) and Thursday 9th February (group 3): Year 2 children walking to the Apple Store from 9.30am – 11.00am

Wednesday 8th February – 8.30am - 9.15am: Coffee morning and meeting for Pre Prep parents led by Mr Bevington regarding plans to improve the Pre Prep building.

Thursday 9th February: Year 2 parents' evening in the Pre Prep hall from 5.00pm – 8.00pm. Parents will be able to book a 10-minute appointment using the new 'parents' booking system'. This can be accessed by clicking on the link 'view our parent information centre' on the main school website at www.townclose.com (if you have not yet logged on, your password is set to: townclose). If you have any problems, please contact Mr Shone in our IT department directly on 01603-599031 or email cshone@townclose.com. **Bookings will close at 12.30pm on the 9th February.**

Thursday 2nd March: World Book Day – children may dress up as their favourite book character.

Friday 10th March: Year 2 classes to Blickling Hall

May we remind you please to collect Pre Prep from their classrooms by 4.00pm at the latest, if they are not attending After School Care. If, for any reason, you are not able to come by 4.00pm, we will sign the children into After School Care at this point.

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

Mrs Bush, Mrs Hayes, Mrs Lawry and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries