



Year 2 Curriculum Information

Week Beginning: 27th March 2017

Dear Parents

Mrs Harries led an assembly this week about Celebrating. With the help of the children and staff, she talked about a range of times and objects which are linked to celebrations, including birthdays, christenings and special presents, before discussing the relevance of hot cross buns and chocolate eggs in relation to the celebration of Easter. Bird Family meetings focused on discussions about knowing how to keep healthy in terms of a balanced diet, drinking water, exercising and getting enough sleep.

Literacy Lessons

Writing stories entitled 'The hole in the playground' certainly fired the children's imaginations this week. They relished the opportunity to write creatively and were full of fantastic ideas which included holes full of sparkling jewels, friendly dragons, space ships and elephants. The children endeavoured to create an exciting plot and employ 'powerful words' which engaged their audience, whilst also using a range of punctuation appropriately.

Maths lessons

This week the children have been completing half-termly assessments which demonstrate their understanding of the arithmetic and problem-solving skills which we have been focusing on this term. These assessments give children the opportunity to experience tests as a positive part of the learning process, so that they approached the activities with confidence. They have also enjoyed creating intricate symmetrical patterns on Easter egg shapes.

Other lessons and activities

The children recalled the key events of the Easter Story in their mini Easter booklets. Our learning about the meaning of various 'Easter symbols' also included a hot cross bun tasting session on Thursday. Year Two was transformed into an Easter craft workshop on Thursday as busy little fingers created clay model chicks, rabbits, 3D gift boxes and paintings. It was a lovely way to relax and enjoy the last day of a busy and successful term.

Next term:

We are excited about our 'living things and their habitats' topic next term which creates opportunities for learning in our beautiful school woods (which actually contain three ponds!). We will also be visiting Pensthorpe Natural Reserve on Friday 12th May.

Our topic for show and tell presentations will be 'amazing animals'. We have asked the children to select an animal which interests them (this can be any animal, so can include exotic wild animals or a much-loved pet). They might choose to present their research as a poster or booklet (which they can show us and talk about); they could show several photos or pictures or create an electronic presentation. We will send a list of show and tell dates home in the first week of next term.

Over the holidays:

We would like all the children to write and send a postcard to their class from somewhere that they visit (locally or further afield). Please post the card to:

_____ Class, Year Two, Town Close School, 14 Ipswich Road, Norwich, NR2 2LR. Hopefully most of the cards will arrive before 22nd April as this will help us to introduce next term's geography topic.

Please read with your child, ideally on a daily basis. We have been focusing on 'inferring meaning through a character's dialogue and actions in our guided reading sessions. As children become more confident, independent readers, it is vital that they fully understand the subtler meanings of the text, as well as the more complex vocabulary which they are experiencing.

Please continue to read stories and poems to them so that they experience a wide range of vocabulary, plots, character development and 'story language' – all vital ingredients for their own writing. We have updated the children's Active Learn maths accounts to include plenty of practice for multiplication and division skills.

Please could all children have two pairs of short white socks in their PE bags next term. Please name these to avoid any missing or muddled socks.

Please note:

There will be no access to the bike parking area in the Pre Prep after the Easter holidays, due to the building works. Please use the bicycle parking area on the Prep side, near the adventure playground behind the Dearnaley building. Thank you.

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 18 April: All Pre Prep Easter bonnet entries to be in

Wednesday 10 May: Parents' evening in the Read Hall from 5.00pm – 7.30pm

Friday 12th May: Year 2 trip to Pensthorpe

Monday 12th June at 2.15pm: Year 2 sports afternoon on the front lawn

Wednesday 28th June: Royal Norfolk Show – School closed

Tuesday 4th July: Moving up morning

Wednesday 5th July: Year 2 trip to Winterton Beach

We wish you all a very happy Easter holiday with your children.

Mrs Bush, Mrs Hayes, Mrs Lawry and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries