



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back from the Year 2 team! We hope that you and your family had an enjoyable Easter. This letter is to keep you informed about some of the work that the children will be completing during the summer term.

Thematic Curriculum – Ahoy There

Our theme this term will involve many pirate-themed activities; exploring pirate stories and songs, treasure maps and hunts and of course dressing like pirates! We will also be taking part in an exciting pirate-themed activity day at Beaumanor Hall. During the term, the children will learn key information about the lives of two significant British people – James Cook and Grace Darling. They will also develop their geographical knowledge of the names of the world's continents and oceans and create their own maps, learning about positional language and the symbols on a map. We will also explore how children can keep themselves safe by the sea and near water. Throughout this theme, we will be answering questions including: Who was Blackbeard? Who else sailed the seas in the past? What songs did sailors sing? The children will also design and make a snack for a day at the seaside.



English

Within English lessons, we will be covering:

- Classic stories - The Twits
- Traditional tales – Pata's Pumpkin
- Non-fiction text about explorers



English work this term will involve a focus around both narrative and non-narrative texts, and writing skills. Some of this will be based around traditional stories and characters, whilst some will be based around our theme topic. We will continue to support the development of grammar and spellings in daily lessons. Written work will be focused towards encouraging children to extend their vocabulary choices and use exciting adjectives to enhance their descriptions of various settings and characters. We will be focussing on sentence structure this term, including use of interesting punctuation and conjunctions. We shall continue to encourage the children's enthusiasm and independence when writing. In reading, children will learn to answer questions using retrieval and inference skills, and show their understanding of a text they have read. We will encourage children to love reading, by reading exciting books as a whole class.

Mathematics

This term, the children will use their knowledge of counting on from or back to zero in steps of 2, 5, 10, & 3 to answer multiplication and division questions. The children will be challenged with 1 and 2 step word problems. Children will continue to extend their knowledge and use of number facts, and use partitioning and number bonds to add and subtract numbers mentally to answer questions. Children will also focus their learning on measures such as money, volume and capacity and time. In addition, the children will be learning about position & direction and pictograms.



Science

This half term, children have the opportunity to closely study plants and trees in the natural environment, making observational drawings and labelling the different parts. Children will learn about germination and understand what plants need to grow and stay healthy. They will grow their own plants from a range of seeds and bulbs and then observe and record their observations and measurements.

Next half term, the children will be working on their chemistry skills through investigating the uses of everyday materials, through the 'Squash it, Bend it, Twist it' Science unit. The children will be identifying and comparing the suitability of a range of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, etc. They will also find out how the shapes of solid objects can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching them!



Religious Education – RE

Within Religious Education, the children will be exploring the following key questions over the course of the term:

- What might Sanatanis learn from the story of Rama and Sita and the celebrations of Diwali?
- What do Humanists believe?

Physical Education – PE

Our PE days will be **Mondays and Thursdays** for this half term. As a school, we have made the decision that to maximise learning time, children can come to school in their PE kits on PE days. We request that children wear their school jumpers or fleeces over the top of their PE kit. Please ensure they are wearing appropriate kit for the weather (leggings/joggers when it is cold or wet). Children will need to remove their stud earrings and have long hair tied back. This term's units of learning are dance, tennis, athletics and rounders.



Personal, Social and Health Education – PSHE

Relationships

The children will reflect upon what is important to them as well as how this influences their relationships with their family and friends. We will discuss the qualities of friends and how to deal with friendships that go wrong.

Changes

After half term we will be learning about growing up and changes that occur as we get older such as height. We will learn about the stages of life, name the main parts of the body and consider growing both physically and mentally. We will discuss what it means to have a healthy lifestyle and why this is important. A letter will be sent out shortly providing further information to parents about this part of the curriculum.



Home learning

- Towards the back of the children's reading diaries you will find a list of the year 2 Common Exception Words, these are words that by the end of the year they need to be able to read and write effectively. If you could support your child with learning these repeatedly and writing them in sentences too, this will support their growing spelling knowledge.
- We expect the children to read their banded reading book at least **3 times** a week and record this in their reading diaries. The class teacher will monitor these on a weekly basis. Children who have read a minimum of 3 times at home will be rewarded with 5 Dojos each week! Please also support your child in reading the High Frequency Words in their word purse (if they have one!)
- **Numbots and Reading Eggs** These are excellent tools for the children to practise and consolidate their number skills and reading skills. Logins for these online platforms are in the back of your child's reading diary.



Other home learning may be set as and when needed and teachers will inform you of this through Class Dojo.

Class Dojo



Class Dojo is a communication platform to keep you informed of your children's work as well as any key information that we need to share with you. Please ensure you keep up to date with messages posted on Dojo. If you are having any difficulties accessing this, please let us know.

As always, many thanks for your continued support. We are all very excited about the learning ahead during this term. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks,

Mrs Adcock