

Robertswood School



Information About This Term's Work

Year 2

Summer Term 2019

**Teachers:
Miss Watkins and Mrs Kallmeier**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Summer Term. This letter is to tell you about both the regular class activities and expectations, and the work that is planned for this term.

During May, Year 2 children will be taking national tests in Maths, Reading, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar. These tests will be used to help inform our teacher assessments, to indicate where your child is working in relation to national expectations. Further information and a video explanation can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-1-and-2-national-curriculum-tests-information-for-parents>

Colour coded reading books are available to be chosen by your child every morning, and should be taken home every evening and returned the following morning. Your child's reading will improve immensely if you can share books with them regularly, listening to them read, reading to them and asking them questions to discuss the story. Your child should spend at least 20 minutes on this every evening and we ask that you record this in the reading record book provided. We monitor their reading record books every Tuesday, so please ensure they are in school. Any child who has read at least five times that week will be rewarded with a Respect Token and monthly certificates are awarded to those children that consistently read five times every week.

Homework will be given out on a Wednesday to be handed in the following Tuesday. Tasks alternate between English, Maths and Brainbuilder tasks, and relate to content currently being covered in the classroom. Spellings are also sent home every week and will be tested on a Tuesday. New words will be sent home stuck inside their Reading Record book if they are ready to move on to the next level, and we ask you to spend some time working on these words with your child. Homework is compulsory for all children, so please ensure that children complete it and return it on or before the Tuesday. Warnings and Minutes will be given if homework is not completed. Children also need their Library books on a Tuesday, as they have a Library session then where they will be expected to read and change their books.

PE lessons take place on Monday and Thursday. Please make sure your child has clearly named PE kit and appropriate shoes that fit properly in school at all times. Children need to remove earrings during PE, or cover them with their own micropore tape for safety reasons.

Children may bring in a bottle of water (with a 'sports top' please) to keep in the classroom. Your child may also wish to keep a named colouring book or puzzle book in their drawer for wet playtimes. Children do not need to bring their own pencil case to school as we provide all the equipment needed in Key Stage 1.

If you have any concerns regarding your child please do not hesitate to pop in to the school office and arrange for an appointment to see us, or feel free to talk to us at the end of the day on the gate.

Here is a summary of the work we are covering in Year 2 this term:

English

In English the children will be developing their ability to write extended stories. We will be looking closely at stories by significant children's authors as well as studying different stories by the same author. The children will learn to explore language play through specific texts, having a go at reading and writing riddles, tongue twisters, humorous verse and stories.

Children will also be using non-fiction information books and focusing on non-chronological reports. The daily 20 minute phonics session will further develop their grammar, reading and spelling skills and we will continue to read a wide variety of texts this term, both independently, in groups and read aloud to the class. This will develop their comprehension, extend their vocabulary and hopefully develop their love of reading.

Maths

We will continue to focus on number work, developing the children's understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will use a variety of mental methods, with a focus on fluency and instant recall of key number facts, tested weekly as part of the 99 Club, and then using these facts to solve reasoning problems. Please continue to develop the essential mental maths skills of number bonds and times tables with your children at home. We will also be using and applying this knowledge to access other areas of the maths curriculum such as fractions, money, time, measure and data handling.

Science

The children will be learning about habitats, and what animals, plants and humans do to adapt to their environment. They will learn to identify how the different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animal and plants, and how they depend on one another. Children will learn to recognise a variety of plants and animals and use the idea of a food chain to describe how animals obtain their food. Much of this learning will be consolidated on a Science-based school trip planned for 20th May, visiting Shortenills Environment Education Centre.

History

The children will learn about people's way of life in the distant past, locally and elsewhere, including making comparisons between aspects of holidays at the seaside now and in the past.

Geography

The children will be thinking about what they have found out about the world and developing their understanding of terrain, weather, conservation and endangered animals through a unit about safari.

RE

The children will be thinking about special people this term, both for themselves and related to different religions. They will also explore what it means to be a faith leader belonging to specific communities or religions.

PSHE

The children will be completing units about Healthy Lifestyles and Growing and Changing. We will also be thinking about 'Wellbeing', focusing on physical, emotional and financial aspects.

Art

The children will be exploring textiles and investigating the processes of dip dying and printing onto fabric. They will also be developing their painting skills, using stories as a stimulus for imaginative work, and experimenting with the use of colour, shape, line and space for specific effects. In addition, the children will exploring sculpture and 3D representations, including the use of clay. Children will also look at the work of famous artists and have the opportunity to discuss their thoughts and feelings.

DT

The children will be comparing, evaluating, designing and making their own simple moving vehicles. The children will develop an understanding of simple mechanisms and moving parts.

The children will be also have the opportunity to use fabric to produce a puppet, having first analysed a variety of puppets and designed their own for a specific purpose.

Music

Using the topics of Weather, Water, Pattern and Travel the children will be further exploring sounds. They will be developing their understanding of pitch and beat by listening to music, singing songs and composing and performing their own musical pieces.

PE

In Gymnastics and PE the children will be developing their agility, through a focus on co-ordination and balance using a variety of multi-skills games and activities. The children will also be developing their running, jumping and throwing skills in Athletics sessions and will use Tennis to extend ball skills.

Computing

The children will be learning to create and use tables and graphs for data handling and develop their understanding of how to send and receive emails. They will also be learning to give instructions to program a variety of devices, both on the computer and using programmable toys. Children will also use the school ipads to develop their coding skills.

Year 2 Graduation

On Wednesday 17th July we will be celebrating the children's completion of Key Stage 1 at Robertswood with a Graduation Ceremony straight after school. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

How you can help your child at home.

- Please encourage your child to read as much and as widely as possible, and complete the Reading Record book, remembering to record tricky or unfamiliar words so they can be revisited at a later date.
- Help your child with their homework and spellings, encouraging them to take care with accuracy and presentation.
- Recap previously learned spellings to ensure children retain them and use them correctly when writing.
- Write shopping lists and thank you letters after visits to grandparents, receiving presents etc.
- Give your child the opportunity to deal with money and change in the shops, and practice weighing and measuring at home.
- Make sure your child knows how to tell the time to the nearest five minutes.
- Improve rapid mental recall of key number facts and the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables.
- Make sure your child knows their full name and address (including spellings), date of birth and contact telephone number.

We hope that you find the information in this letter useful, and look forward to a happy and productive term.

Miss L Watkins and Mrs K Kallmeier