

Robertswood School



Information About This Term's Work

Year 2
Autumn Term 2019

Miss L Watkins & Mrs K Kallmeier

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 2. This letter is to tell you about both the regular class activities and expectations, and the work that is planned for this term.

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 share books with them regularly, listening to them read, reading to them and asking questions to discuss the story, the characters, the setting as well as encouraging them to explain their thoughts and opinions. 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 will be monitoring 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 also 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. Children will get Maths homework every week apart from when a Brainbuilder challenge is sent home instead (three times this term). Please help your child with all their homework to ensure secure understanding, and encourage them to take care with presentation. Spelling work is also sent home every week and tested on a Tuesday. The spelling words will correspond to the sounds being taught in that week's phonics sessions, as well as including a few common exception words. Please spend time working on these with your child and help them to complete their words and sentences accurately to ensure they learn these spelling patterns. 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. Wednesday is Year 2's Library session so please ensure children have their library books with them on that day so they can change them.

PE lessons take place on Tuesday morning and Wednesday afternoon. Children will need clearly named PE kit in school at all times, including trainers or plimsoles for outdoor sessions. The children must remove earrings during PE, or cover them with their own micropore tape for safety reasons, so please ensure that if your child has pierced ears, they have a roll of tape in their PE bag.

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 or puzzle book in their drawer for use during wet playtimes. Children are not allowed 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

The children will be writing narratives about personal experiences and real events, both fiction and non-fiction. They will be learning about poetry, how to write simple instructions and writing stories, focusing on story structure and planning. Daily phonics sessions will work on developing their reading, spelling and grammar skills. We will be reading a wide variety of texts this term, both independently, in groups and read aloud to the class. This will develop motivation, comprehension and extend their vocabulary.

Maths

We will be focusing on counting, number sequences including odd and even, doubling and halving, and counting in twos, fives and tens. We will be learning a variety of methods for addition and subtraction and focusing on understanding place value. Children will need to know their number bonds as there will be an emphasis on mental recall and explanation to develop understanding of calculations in order that children can estimate answers to check accuracy, and we will be continuing with the 99 Club each week to develop their speed. Pupils will also learn about multiplication and division, and understand how they relate to each other. They will also develop their understanding of telling the time.

Science

The children will identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses. They will also find out how the shape of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. Later this term we will be learning about the environment and our impact on the world around us.

History

The children will be learning about significant people and events from the history of Britain such as The Great Fire of London, Florence Nightingale and Guy Fawkes. Children will use a variety of sources to compare aspects of life in different periods. We will be going on a Florence Nightingale related trip in November (cost approximately £15), and more details will follow nearer the time.

Geography

The children will be studying the local area and developing their mapping skills. They will also be extending their geographical knowledge and understanding of the world, by mapping countries, continents and oceans.

RE

The children will be learning about a variety of religious stories and thinking about the meaning behind them. They will be encouraged to think about how the messages can influence their own behaviour, and how the teachings might be applied to their own everyday life.

PSHE

Children will be learning about relationships and their own emotional well-being. They will learn to manage risk and change positively, and how to set themselves simple goals for the future.

Art

The children will look at a variety of art styles, learning to respond to the stimulus of music and stories, as well as developing their observational drawing skills and techniques.

DT

The children will be studying a food technology unit. They will compare and evaluate different fruits before deciding on a design criteria for their own product. Children will learn about food hygiene and have the opportunity to use different tools and equipment.

Music

The children will be exploring sounds using voices and instruments to describe feelings and moods. They will also learn to move and play to a steady beat and to control changing tempo.

PE

The children will develop their agility, co-ordination and balance alongside improving their throwing and catching skills, and working together to make up their own games.

Computing

The children will be learning to combine text and images, and use simple editing and formatting techniques. They will learn to save, access and print their own work and to talk about their use of technology. We will also be focussing on understanding risks associated with using the internet.

Parent Consultations

These will be held on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd October (3.45pm – 6pm) and on Thursday 24th October (5.00pm – 8.00pm). Booking details will be sent out nearer the time.

How You Can Help Your Child At Home.

Encourage your child to read as much and as widely as possible, and complete the Reading Record. Please help your child with all their homework and spellings to ensure secure understanding, and encourage them to take care with presentation. 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 help them learn how to tell the time. Practice key number facts and develop their understanding and recall of their 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Make sure your child knows their full name, date of birth, address and telephone number.

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

Miss L Watkins and Mrs K Kallmeier