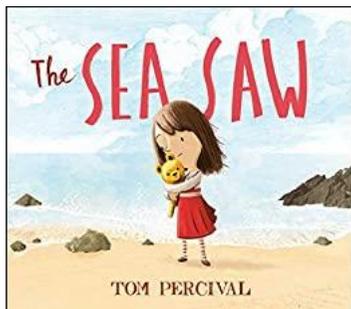


Welcome to Year 2



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Spring 1!

We hope that by working together we can make this half term a happy and very productive one for your child, offering them interesting and challenging activities and experiences to ensure that they make the best possible progress with their learning.

Coming up this half term we will be learning lots of interesting facts and important skills in a range of different subjects. Our new class text in English for this half term is *The Sea Saw*. This half term we will also be learning all about the country Kenya in Geography and .

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch in for a chat. We will be happy to speak to you and/or make an appointment for a more lengthy discussion.

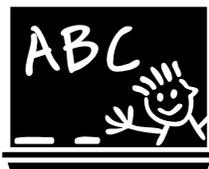
Yours sincerely,

Mrs Roberts and Miss Farrell



Please look inside...

Some Important Reminders...



Start of the day. We would be grateful if you would ensure that your child arrives on time for school. We ring the bell at 8.50. Children who arrive late are missing out on important information and instructions for the day and miss the first part of our phonics and Spelling teaching.

End of the day. School finishes at 3.15 pm. Children must be collected by an adult from the allocated door. **Please inform us if someone new is collecting your child - if they are unknown to us we may not allow your child to go with them.**

Uniforms and Coats. We would be grateful if these could be clearly named. Please also label items of PE kit. Our uniform policy states that children must wear black shoes for school. Please ensure children bring a coat to school everyday, even if the weather is warm and sunny that morning. The weather can soon change so we like to be prepared!

PE. This terms P.E. lessons will be on a **Friday**. Please ensure that your child has a full P.E. kit including trainers/plimsolls. No jewellery should be worn on P.E. days and long hair should be tied back.

Reading. Your child has a guided reading session twice a week with their class teacher. They also have an opportunity to read their reading book on a 1:1 basis with an adult in class each week. It is therefore vital that reading books are returned **everyday**. All children have a reading diary - please ensure that this is returned to school everyday even if their reading book does not need changing. This is an excellent communication tool between home and school and we would value your support in this area. Comments and messages can be written in the appropriate week.

Learning and Home: As per our new learning at home agreement, children are expected to read at home at least 3 times a week for 10-15 minutes. Children should also be practising their times tables and counting multiple times per week. Doing this in a fun and enjoyable way will help children to remember this vital knowledge. Homework will be sent out on a **Friday** and needs to be completed and returned to school no later than the following **Thursday**. Please encourage your child to complete and return homework as this is a chance for them to further develop skills which have been taught in class.

This half terms class text in Year 2 is 'The Sea Saw'.

English. This half term we will focus on the skills needed to make our sentences more interesting using a subordinating conjunctions and expanded noun phrases. We will read the text *The Sea Saw* by Tom Percival and write our own version of this story. Our non fiction writing this half term will be writing a set of instructions using imperative verbs and precise language choices. Alongside our English sessions children will be taught daily phonics and spelling. In these sessions we focus on reading and spelling words as well as grammar and punctuation. The children will continue to practise their joined handwriting.

Maths. This half term our focus will be addition and subtraction. We will be learning to how to solve calculations using concrete resources and pictures. The children will mainly use two digit numbers to do this. We will also look at how we can solve problems using the calculation methods we have learned. Alongside this the children will apply their knowledge when using money. We will also describe and compare the properties of 2D and 3D shape.

Computing. This half term we will be looking at creating ebooks. We will be using Book Creator on the iPads to create ebooks all about ourselves.

French. We will be learning about the days of the week. We will be using a book called 'La Semaine de Berthe'. This will allow us to use a rhyme to help to learn the new words. We will also produce a comic strip of the story learning the names of the activities Berthe the witch does each day.

P.E. Our unit of work in PE this half term is dance and we will be taught by a specialist dance teacher. We will learn a dance routine and perform our own dance moves.

Personal, Social, Health Education. This half term we will be focusing on Dreams and Goals (JIGSAW PSHE Unit). We will Identify some hopes and fears for this year linking this to New Year Resolutions. We will understand the rights and responsibilities of belonging to a class and school. We will listen to other people and contribute our own ideas about rewards and consequences

Spiritual Moral Social and Cultural development. We will learn to empathise and consider the viewpoints of others through debates, drama activities and discussions. We will discuss our beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences.

Religious Education. This half term will we focusing on the beliefs of Muslims. We will be learning about Allah and the prophet Muhammad and his importance within the religion. We will learn about the holy book called the Qu'ran and the five pillars of Islam.

Geography. In Geography this half term we will be looking at the similarities and differences of Sunderland and Kenya. We will look at the human and physical features and compare these in a variety of contexts.

Art. In Art we will study the famous artist Henri Matisse. We will look at his style of painting and collage and try to create our own piece based on his use of colour and shape.

Science. We will be describing the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.

Ideas for activities to complete at home



- Try to listen to your child read regularly. 10-15 minutes three times a week is much better than a longer sessions once a week.
- A big part of reading is talking about the book. Ask a variety of questions, such as 'Tell me what has happened so far? How is the character feeling? What do you think is going to happen next?' This will encourage your child to give their own opinions about events and characters in the book.
- Practise their times tables, every day! Children in Year 2 are expected to know their 2, 5 and 10 times tables fluently and be able to count in 3s.
- Ask your children about their topics in school and what they have been learning about. What experience do you have in these areas amongst your family and friends?
- Encourage your child to become more independent. Ask them to pack their own school bag and to check that they have everything that they need.
- Encourage them to prepare their bag for school the night before.

Attendance and Punctuality



Please ensure your child is on-time for school every day. There is a staff member 'on duty', on the playground, from 8.45. Doors to classrooms open at 8.50/ 12.15. Good attendance is important, as it has a direct effect on learning. Children should not take time-off unless absolutely necessary. We award certificates and prizes for good attendance. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target.