

Homework

We encourage all children to read for 10 minutes every day at home. As the children become more fluent, we will encourage them to take responsibility for changing their reading book once it has been read. We welcome the positive comments you make in the reading record and appreciate the time you take to listen to your child. It really does help them! The children can also work their way towards the top of our reading tree where they will receive a reward for all the wonderful reading they are doing at home. For every week they read four or more times at home they move up a branch on the tree. Once they reach the top of the tree they will receive a small prize for their hard work.

Children will be given spellings and maths homework on a Monday which should be returned by Friday. Please practise spellings daily if possible—little and often is the best way to learn them. Spellings will be tested on Friday morning.

Your child will also bring home a piece of maths work each week. Each piece of work reinforces work already covered in school and should take approximately 15 minutes. (These times are a guideline - some pieces may take less time, some more.)

Key Vocabulary

Please find enclosed a copy of the key words that we will be using in class to support our science work this term. Please spend some time with your child reading through and discussing the words on the sheet. This will help them to become familiar with the new vocabulary and reinforce the learning taking place in school. A copy can be found on our class page of the school website. Thank you!

Termly Challenge

For this term's topic homework we would like the children to design a habitat in a shoe box. First get a shoebox. Next choose a habitat. Here are some ideas:- forest, sea, polar, rainforest, desert. Then decorate the inside of your shoebox to look like your habitat e.g. a forest habitat might have trees and leaves. After this add 3d animals (models or pictures either printed or drawn). There are lots of ideas online, just type habitat shoebox into google. Please bring into class on (or before) Monday 7th March.



Expectations in Year 2

Children throughout the school are encouraged at all times to be polite, diligent and hard working. We want the children to do the best they can and feel a sense of pride and achievement in everything they do. We try to uphold our school motto 'Be Brave, Be Kind, Belong' in all that we do. We put emphasis on the presentation of the children's work and encourage and teach independence and organisational skills.

Class rewards

House points and stickers are given to individuals as reward for excellent behaviour, attitudes and work. Each day a child will be selected to be the star of the day and will get to spend the following day looking after our class mascot 'Twit-Twoo'.

Please don't forget to take a look at our class page on the school website (www.stminver.org) where you will find lots of photos of the different learning taking place in Year 2. We hope you will find this information useful. If you have any further questions or queries then please don't hesitate to ask.

We look forward to a happy and enjoyable Spring Term!

Thank you for your continued support.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Cudmore



Year 2 Class Booklet — Spring Term 2

Teacher: Mrs Cudmore

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Mably



Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a lovely half term break and the children are raring to go! I can't believe we are half way through the school year. Where does the time fly?

This half term we continue with our topic 'Rainforest Explorers' which the children have really enjoyed learning about. We have found out so many fascinating facts about the Amazon Rainforest and the animals and plants that can be found living there. I wonder if the children can name the 4 different layers of the rainforest and tell you about it? We also found it interesting to learn about one of the largest tribes of the Amazon, the Yanomami. Did you know that the Yanomami lived unknown to the rest of the world until the 1960s? The Yanomami live in small villages. Each family has a shabono, a large oval hut with a space in the middle where the whole family lives.

I have been so impressed with all the wonderful habitat boxes that have been brought into school so far. If you haven't had time to start this project yet there is still plenty of time to do so and I can't wait to see which habitat your child has chosen to create.

I hope you find the following information useful, and it gives you an insight into the teaching and learning that will take place in Year 2 during the Spring Term (although I'm sure some things will change as we go along). This half term we will spend our story time sessions listening to 'The Secret Explorers and the Rainforest Rangers' by S J King.

English

In English this term, we will be exploring our class text 'The Bog Baby' by Jeanne Willis and writing our own version of the story linked to our topic. We will plan and write a set of instructions based on the text 'How to build a beautiful home for a Bog Baby'. We will also be taking part in a 'big write' once a week where the children can show off their creative writing skills.

On a weekly basis we will also be covering the following:-

- * Whole class reading.
- * Comprehension based on different texts linked to our topic.
- * Individual reading either independently or to an adult.
- * Handwriting practice— this term the children will be learning to join their writing neatly.
- * Weekly spellings are sent home to reinforce what is being taught in school.
- * Weekly visit to the library on a Monday afternoon to choose a new book for the week.

Maths

In maths this term we will continue to follow the White Rose Maths planning, adopting the mastery approach to teaching. We will continue to build on your child's knowledge of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, and explore the relationships between the different operations. This half term we will be also be exploring the properties of 2d and 3d shape and learning about fractions.

In addition to this, the children will take part in a 15 minute maths session called 'Snappy Maths' four times per week. During this session the children will learn a range of strategies to help them recall their addition and subtraction facts within 10. Securing fluency in this area will enable the children to make connections in their learning and help them to free up their working memory so that they can reason and problem solve about their maths when faced with more complex problems to solve. The children are enjoying these sessions and are beginning to transfer the new strategies learnt to other areas of their maths, particularly when calculating with larger numbers.

Science

This half term we will learn all about growing plants. We will explore the different parts of a plant and investigate what conditions are needed for a healthy plant to grow. We will also observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. Please find enclosed a list of key words that we will be using in class this half term to support our science work. Please spend some time with your child reading through and discussing the words on the sheet.

RE

In RE we will focus on the religion of Christianity and explore the question 'Why does Easter matter to Christians?'. We will learn about the Easter story and discuss why Easter is an important festival for Christians. We will discuss the different symbols linked to Easter. We will also be learning about the life and significance of St Piran to Cornwall.

Art / Design and Technology

The children have enjoyed learning about the artist Henri Rousseau and have created some great toucan artwork. In D.T we will be designing and making a healthy wrap for a jungle explorer. We will consider what a balanced diet looks like and taste test different food combinations to help us design a healthy wrap. Finally, we will evaluate the taste, texture and appearance of our wrap.

Computing

In Computing we will be discussing the importance of E-Safety and learning how to stay safe online. We will continue to use ICT to support our learning in all subjects. This half term we will be using the 'Chrome Music Lab' to create a piece of music for a rainforest animal.

PSHE (Personal Social and Health Education)

Each week the children will have a PSHE lesson based on the Jigsaw Framework. This half term we begin our unit 'Healthy Me'. During these lessons we will discuss how to keep our bodies healthy and discuss what it means to be relaxed. We will look at how medicines work inside our body and how important it is to use them safely. We also think about making healthy choices in our diet and discuss what foods to eat to give us energy. The children will also have an opportunity to change the job they are responsible for this half term so that by the end of Year 2 they will have had experience of a range of roles within the classroom.

Geography / History

The children have enjoyed learning about tropical rainforests and where these are located around the world. We discovered that tropical rainforests are located between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. In history we will be learning about the explorers Christopher Columbus, Matthew Henson and Felicity Aston and the impact they have had on the world we live in.

Music

The children will have music with Mrs Davis on a Wednesday afternoon and will be working on their performance for our Spring Concert at the end of this half term. Each term we will spend some time listening to and appreciating a piece of classical music. This term we will continue to listen to Bachiano Brasileiras No 2, The Little Train of the Caipira (finale) by Heitor Villa Lobos.

PE

This term the children will have PE on a Wednesday afternoon with Mr Rickard and a Friday afternoon with Mrs Cudmore. Please remember to send your child into school wearing their PE kit on these days. This half term we will be developing our gymnastics skills to create a sequence of up to 4 gymnastic actions including a jump. We will also begin our unit on net and wall games where we will learn to how use a racket to return a ball with accuracy.