

Curriculum Newsletter – Spring Term 1st Half 2018



Happy New Year 2018 to everyone, we hope you had a restful break and welcome back to Year 2.

We continue in January to build on our excellent progress from Autumn and keep our New Year Resolutions to Aspire, Persevere and Achieve our best.

This half term Year 2 are setting sail on a journey of discovery with our Topic : Unsinkable Titanic ! Where we will learn all about the ill-fated maiden voyage and its place in cultural history.

At home, can you research and study the topic to learn new facts to share in class ?

At home in Maths, can you practice times tables 2s , 3s , 5s and 10s ? Practice telling the time , using watches and clocks. Use real money in the shops!

Achieving Success

PSHE

PSHE continues our philosophical and ethical focus. New Year always begins with resolutions about how we would like to change and improve ourselves and our environment. What are our personal goals for 2018 ? How would we like to be better or different this year ? Children will explore these questions, developing a positive sense of themselves and others, as well as the reasons behind our actions. Students will engage in mindfulness sessions to further develop self-awareness and support resilience.

Mathematics

In Year 2 Mathematics Mastery continues with multiplication and division, 2s , 5s and 10s. We are also going to recap , review and go into greater depth with Time , Money and Shape. At home, please help to support by practising telling the time regularly, using real money at the shops, and looking for 2D and 3D shapes in the environment. Addition and Subtraction involving regrouping is another topic, can students practice this method at home with 2 digit numbers? Finally we will look at Fractions: half, quarter, third. This language can be introduced in telling the time too. Maths Meetings teach calendar maths through music and chants. We will also engage with all these topics in streamed Arithmetic groups and Topic Maths to support and stretch students understanding.

Physical Education

In P.E we will be working on hand-eye coordination and throwing / catching skills. This will be incorporated into games with an emphasis on team work, fair play and sportsmanship. Children will be building up their strength and stamina with warm up workouts, learning about how these exercises keep us healthy and fit.

Other Useful Information Every Friday pupils take part in Salsa lessons! Salsa has been a real hit with the children so far, their dancing is fantastic! For both classes, P.E will take place on a Wednesday afternoon. **Children will need to come into school already in the correct Atwood P.E kit on Wednesdays only.** Due to Salsa on Friday, if students wish to come in PE kit, this is fine. When after school clubs begin, students wear uniform and bring any required change of clothes for after school. Our strength as a school community and a Key Stage rests in great home / school communication so any issues as they arise or questions, let Miss Joyce or Mr Townsend know. Mr Townsend is always available in person and via email as Key Stage lead. We are looking forward a great start to 2018 ! New Year, New opportunities.

Literacy

For the Autumn Term 2 our topic will be ‘Unsinkable Titanic’ . Our end goal is to create a newspaper detailing the tragedy, merging non-fiction and our own fictional reporting – Year 2 Journalists of the highest calibre. We will explore the background to Titanic, its place in history and the effects it had. Class status is a very interesting aspect of the story we will investigate too. Within this we will write fact files, answer comprehension texts, look at the features of newspapers and create storyboards to sequence events. Poetry was very successful in Autumn term so we will continue to link this through our new topic: the features of a poem, how poems can differ and constructing our own poems. SPaG is taught through Comprehension and Phonics, it is our goal to have all Year 2 students complete the phonics programme as soon as possible – *lots of reading at home will help!* Handwriting is a key focus and our first Pen Licences will be given out!

Topic

Topic will be linked to Titanic. We will use our research skills to read sources and study historical documents. We will use timelines to give a context to the historical dates. We will compare and contrast modern life with the past, including forms of communication and dress. We will look at changes over time including in social class and divisions. On Thursdays we now have a Geography slot, which will cover world cultures, countries and people. This is a great opportunity to share our different experiences and knowledge.

Music and Art

Music includes our Ark Music curriculum supported by Mr Palekar, where we learn songs and rhythm. Weekly singing assemblies bring the Key Stage together to learn. Art is developing drawing skills such as proportion and representation, to give students the tools to represent their ideas. Design and Technology provides time to build projects.

Aspiration & Achievement – Scholarship – Perseverance – Integrity – Respect & Responsibility – Enthusiasm