

## Reminders

- Please make sure your child arrives between 8:40am and 8:50am.
- Please remember to leave a message on the absence line if your child is not well enough to come to school.
- All clothing should be clearly named.
- All children from Reception to Year 2 are entitled to a Universal Free School Meal.

## Swimming and PE Lessons



- Year 2 will be swimming in Term 4.
- Please remember to provide your child with a towel and a one-piece swimsuit or suitable swimming trunks.
- Please ensure your child brings goggles and a verruca sock to swimming if they need it.
- The day of PE can vary from week to week so please ensure your child has their named PE kit with them at the start of each week.



## The Year 2 Team

**Teachers** (from left to right) Mrs Clemo, Miss Miles and Mrs Hollingsworth.

**Support Staff:** Mrs Smith, Mrs Wilsher, Mrs Ayres, Mrs Willis, Miss McAuliffe and Mr Greenway.

Please do not hesitate to speak to us at the end of the day if you have a question/problem. If you have an urgent message for us, please tell the staff on the gate, who will pass the information on.

Many thanks for your continued support—we wish you all a very happy and healthy 2018.



# Joy Lane Primary School Year 2 Newsletter

## Terms 3 & 4

Welcome back! We hope you and your child have had a lovely Christmas and are well rested and ready for 2018. We would like to thank you for all the kind gifts and cards we received at the end of term.

We have lots of fun ahead of us in our learning! This newsletter will give a brief overview of the learning themes and activities we will be covering in Terms 3 and 4.

### This term we are learning about...



## Brilliant Britain

We will be learning all about 'Brilliant Britain' this term. We will explore the life of Queen Elizabeth



II in History, and this will inform much of our writing in English. To kick off our learning this term we will be holding a fabulous 'Royal Ball', where we will waltz in our finest clothes! Through our exploration of 'Brilliant Britain' we will look at the four countries that make Britain, their capitals cities and their flags. We will look closely at London and examine some of its key landmarks. To celebrate all of our learning, we will be holding a Brilliantly British Gallery for which you will receive an invite to attend.

### In Term 4 our learning theme is ...



## Marvellous Meerkats

During our learning theme of 'Marvellous Meerkats', we will explore Africa and its amazing wildlife. We will study 'Meerkat



Mail' by Emily Gravett in English and also compile reports on all of the facts we have learnt about meerkats. We will compare the habitats of animals living in Africa to those living in colder climates, in addition to comparing them to our climate. In Geography, we will be further developing our map skills by locating continents, as well as the countries we located during our 'Brilliant Britain' learning.



# Year 2 Learning Themes

Here is an overview of some of the things we will be doing at school in the next two terms:

## English

This term, we will be developing our use of the new writing skills we have learnt so far. We will continue to practise our use of commas in a list, questions marks and exclamation marks, as well as ensuring we use full stops correctly. We will be developing the range of word types we use and try to explore more exciting choices when using adjectives and adverbs. We will develop these skills through a range of exciting writing opportunities such as story writing, report writing and narratives from other cultures.



## Reading tips!

As you know, we encourage you to read with your child every day, and here are a few top tips to help your child progress:

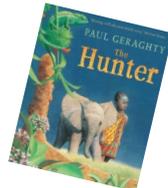
- Please encourage the use of phonics to help your child decode unknown words (but only the unknown ones - they should be developing fluency).
- To support fluency, asking them to read their book a second time should improve your child's sense of flow.
- If your child finds reading tricky, it is okay to take reading in turns to increase their confidence and begin to enjoy the flow of a story.
- Encourage your child to talk about the story and ensure that they understand all the vocabulary used.
- Enjoy sharing a range of stories together!!

In addition to this, this term we are really focussing on our comprehension skills. When sharing books with your child, it is important to ask lots of questions (what, why, where, who etc.) in order to assess your child's understanding of what they have read.



Some of the stories that we will be exploring at school are:

- *The Queen's Knickers*
- *Emily in London*
- *The Hunter*
- *Meerkat Mail*



Also, at home you could explore stories and non-fiction books relating to our learning themes for example books about London, the Queen or Meerkats.

## Mathematics

We will continue to develop a secure understanding of place value (the tens and ones in a number) and apply this to our calculations in addition and subtraction. We will continue to use jottings to support our mental calculation when the numbers become too large to work out in our heads. We will also begin to develop our understanding of multiplication and division and the different strategies we can use to help us.



## Supporting your child at home

All of our learning in school can be further supported at home. Practising key skills and recalling facts little and often can be done in a fun way by accessing a range of games and apps:

<http://www.ictgames.com/> (for Maths and English)

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=40> (SPaG)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/z3g4d2p> (English and Maths tabs)

## Homework



Thank you so much for the brilliant model houses for our Great Fire of London recreation—it was fantastic fun! As always, daily reading should be recorded in the yellow reading record and spelling practice in the green spelling book. The homework wheel will consist of a variety of activities linked to every curriculum area. In addition, on the back of the homework wheel you will find a variety of spelling games you can explore with your child to practise the high frequency/common exception words from the spelling section of the wheel. Your child should complete one activity from the wheel each week. We look forward to celebrating your child's successes within the class! *Please feel free to use your yellow reading record to share any messages and concerns and we will get back to you.*

## Spellings Cards

Spellings can be changed on a Tuesday and Friday. Children will practise 8 sets of their given colour and, once they are confident in them, they will be tested in class. If they can spell the majority of the words independently, they will move on to the next set. If they need further practice, they will have the opportunity to revisit spellings from the previous cards. We would also ask you to encourage your child to use their spellings in sentences as part of their practice. This shows that they can really apply their learning.

