

Reminders:

- Please make sure your child arrives between 8:40 and 8:50 am
- 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 free school meal.

Swimming and PE Lessons

- Year 2 are swimming in Term 5. Potter will swim on a Tuesday and Postgate and Picasso on a Thursday.
- Please make sure your child has a one-piece swimsuit and a towel for every session.
- Please ensure your child brings a verruca sock or goggles to swimming if they need it.
- We do PE every week so ensure your child has their named PE kit with them at the start of each week.



The Year 2 Team

Please don't 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 as we continue to develop the independence of the children walking into class by themselves. .



Joy Lane Primary School Year 2 Newsletter

Terms 5 & 6

We hope you have all had a lovely Easter break and are enjoying the lovely sunshine. The summer terms are always busy for us as we complete our SATs assessments and can enjoy spending time outside. The SATs assessments are a time for the children to show us how far they have come and we couldn't be prouder of their hard work. This newsletter is an overview of the new learning themes for Terms 5 and 6.



This term we are learning about...

Sunflowers

We will be learning all about sunflowers this term. We have already begun learning about sunflowers and have planted our own seeds to support our learning about how plants grow in science. We will be exploring Vincent Van Gogh's work and developing our sketching skills in art.



In Term 6 our learning theme is ...

Walking with Dinosaurs

In Term 6 we will delve into the land of the dinosaurs. We will be treating ourselves to a screening of 'The Good Dinosaur' on which we will base lots of our English writing. We will also be discovering our own dinosaurs and writing to museums to tell them all about our fabulous fossil discoveries. During this historical topic we will explore 'the history of me', looking at how timelines can help us explore events in the past. We are planning lots of exciting things - watch this space!





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:

The children have made fantastic progress in writing this year and their work is consistently praised by teachers and visitors to our school. This term we will be developing our use of story language by writing our own imaginative fairy tales. Next term we will focus on some more non-fiction writing as we create posters about our favourite dinosaurs. We have developed a wide range of writing skills and will continue to embed these in all the writing we undertake. We will continue to develop our comprehension skills in guided reading and would like to take this opportunity to thank you for regularly reading with your children. This has a huge impact on not only reading skills but confidence across the curriculum.



Mathematics:

We are working really hard at developing our mental arithmetic skills in maths and are also working hard at our times tables. This term we will begin to make sure we can apply these skills to word problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We aim to take our learning (even maths!) outside this term as we embed the skills we have learnt so far this year. Thank you for your continued support with the completion of My Maths homework it really helps consolidate the children's learning.



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:

The children's homework continues to impress us week upon week so thank you! 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. Your child should complete one activity from the wheel each week. We look forward to celebrating your successes within the class! *Please feel free to use your yellow reading record to share any messages and concerns so we are able to get back to you.*

Spellings:

We appreciate your patience as we assess and set up our revamped spelling scheme. The process is exactly the same, you just may notice a few different colours! 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 to the next set. If they need further practice they will have the opportunity to revisit spellings from the previous weeks. 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.

Reading tips!

As you know we encourage reading with your child everyday and here are a few 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 they understand all the vocabulary used.
- Enjoy sharing stories together!!

We have noticed that lots of children are enjoying bringing in their own stories which of course we actively encourage. Children are finding spare moments in their day (even play times!) to enjoy a few pages of their favourite books.

