

Blackpool
Rocks
Spring 2
Year Two

Dear Parents & Carers We hope that your children have had a great break and are ready for the new year. Please find some information regarding the main aspects of the curriculum for the first part of the second term. Our theme is Blackpool Rocks; we will focus on the area we live in and other islands in the UK. We will learn about the coast line and sea side holidays in the past.

Children should continue to come in their PE kit on PE days. PE days for all Year 2 children are now on Monday and Wednesday. On all other days, children should attend school in their uniform; this includes black school shoes not black or coloured trainers. Futsal, a sports and games group will be coming into school to lead sport with the children at lunchtime. This is completely optional. If your child would like to join in with Futsal, Harriers will receive this session on a Monday so should already be in PE Kit and Kites should bring trainers in a school bag on a Tuesday.

Please continue to send children into school in a thick winter coat with a hood. Children spend playtimes, lunchtimes and some lessons outside and it is very cold. We would also ask that all children come to school with **a school bag every day**. We often like to send things home but are unable to do this if your child does not have a bag in a school. This can be an Armfield book bag or a rucksack of your choice.

Harriers Assembly is on Thursday the 24th February and Kites is on Thursday 3rd March. Our school trip is provisionally booked for Monday the 29th March; we will visit Blackpool's coastline and enjoy a day at the beach.

Should you have any queries over the next few weeks, please don't hesitate to contact us via Class Dojo.

The Year Two Team



As Authors and Readers

We will continue to have a strong focus on reading with the year 2 SATs on the horizon. To be able to read fluently children should have as much practise as possible so please continue to read at home and ensure that guided read books are returned to school on Monday so we can read with your child. It is vital to be a skilled reader if your child is to make progress and access all other aspects of the curriculum. All children will continue to have daily phonics sessions; we regularly assess children to ensure they are having the correct level of teaching. You can access parental support with phonics online with Little Wandle- in the parent's section- this will help you support your child/ren . We will also concentrate on spellings; all children in year 2 will have spellings sent home as homework and be assessed each week to ensure that children are learning these. In year 2, we have Guided Reading sessions which take place twice a week. In these sessions, we will focus on developing fluency, understanding vocabulary and reading with expression. There will a further focus on reading comprehension (understanding the text) and we will work with your children to develop this skill further; at home when reading please ask your child questions about the book. We will send further guidance on good questions to ask When your child brings home their guided reading book it will be after reading it in school so it should be fluent (read easily). Your child may also bring home an Accelerated Reader book, it is important that an adult listen to them read this and is available to offer some support. Remember to ask your children questions about what they have read.

In the English lessons, our focus text is Katie Morag's Island Adventure. This half term, we will be linking other subjects to this text, including DT and history. We will write a narrative and instructions. In our writing we will continue to work on using capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences. To improve our writing, we will be using adjectives to describe and conjunctions (and, because, but, or, when) to link sentences. Throughout these sessions we will be working on enhancing children's vocabulary by introducing varied language and explaining meaning of new words; improving spelling by having a focus on phonics and year 2 spelling rules; and perfecting the children's use of cursive handwriting.

As Mathematicians

With year 2 SATS fast approaching, we will continue to have a focus on place value and addition and subtraction. We will have an extra mini maths each day to practise our mental strategies and understanding of number, as well as looking at applying these in word problems.

Our new learning this half term will include multiplication and division. We will begin by recognising and adding equal groups and writing this as repeated addition before introducing the multiplication symbol. Children will have the chance to apply their multiplication skills in a variety of contexts, including word problems.

"There are 4 flowers in the garden. Each flower has 5 petals. How many petals are there altogether?"

Once we have grasped the concept of multiplication, we will look at the inverse of division. We will use terminology such as 'sharing' and begin with practical sharing activities before relating this to the division number sentences.

It is really important that children continue to learn their 2, 5 and 10 times tables at home. Every child has been sent their TT Rockstars log in on Class Dojo via messages. If you are unable to find this, please speak to your child's class teacher. This is an excellent platform which makes learning the tables fun and exciting, and allows them to compete against their friends.

As Historians

In history, we will focus on a time when seaside holidays first became popular. During the Victorian Era people started to enjoy a trip to the seaside. We will learn about the Victorian seaside; activities, like Punch and Judy Puppet Shows and the Victorians most enjoyed pastimes and will compare this with what we do and enjoy now. Included in this topic is how the coast line has changed. As part of this topic, we will visit the Blackpool coast line and take part in a litter pick, scavenger hunt and enjoy a seaside snack of chips or ice cream

PSHE/British Values

In PSHE, the children will learn how to stay safe online. We will learn through a range of sources and media. Children will learn to navigate the internet safely and who to ask for help if things go wrong. Children will learn about age restrictions and their importance.

As Scientists

In Science this half term, we will investigate materials and their uses. We will enquire why toys are made from certain materials and do an investigation to test strength, durability and how waterproof a material is.

As Designers and Creators

This half term in Design and Technology, we will be baking! We will learn all about safety, hygiene and the properties of different ingredients. We will be making delicious scones,

As Theologians (R.E)

In R.E, we are learning about the Christian Festival of Easter. We will focus on why Christians celebrate and the important events that lead to Jesus' arrest and then rising again, We will enhance these lessons with art, DT and other subject links.

As Geographers

In Geography, we are learning about the features of an island and comparing where we live to the countryside other places in the UK. We will develop our map skills and become more confident in using atlases.