



...where we are all inspired to learn

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Wednesday 18th January 2017

Year 2 Newsletter - Spring 2017

Dear Parents

Happy New Year and welcome back after a refreshing Christmas break! The children have come back ready to learn with very positive and enthusiastic attitudes to their work. The year 2 team are available if you have any questions, they are: Miss Johnson, Mrs Mewett, Mrs Webb, Mrs Brooker, Mrs Smith, Mrs Thomas and Mrs Emerton.

Class Blog - Before I continue this newsletter, may I remind you about the class blog which is the best place to keep up with all the latest news, events and activities in Year 2. You can access this blog every morning on the class interactive whiteboard, through our school website at: <http://www.princeofwales.dorset.sch.uk>, via our Facebook and Twitter (see the links on the school website) or via our school's iPhone App which is available to download in the App Store. We hope that you find this method of communication useful and encourage you to comment using the inbuilt tools.

Topic - We will be studying Victorians, The Gambia and The Great Fire of London this term. There are some fantastic opportunities for art, design technology, history, geography, science, music and drama within these topics. The children will be taking part in a Victorian Day where they will have the opportunity to spend the day as Victorian School Children. We will also be comparing Dorchester Market with a Market in Banjul, Gambia and buying some ingredients to use back at school. During the week beginning 27th February 2017 we will be taking part in a Fair Trade and Global Awareness week called 'Fairtrade Fortnight' where we will be looking at the food we eat, where it is sourced and how it is produced. We will also be taking part in World Book day on Thursday 2nd March by dressing up as Fairy tale characters and will be having a visit from a theatre company on Friday 3rd March.

Trips - We will be visiting Dorchester Market on Wednesday 1st March.

Themed Weeks - Fairtrade and Global Awareness - 27th February - 2nd March. So lots of creative and inspiring learning will be taking place!

Drama Day - Victorian Day - 23rd January 2017

Snacks and Water - We are very aware that some children are not drinking enough during the day. To maximise our brain function and encourage a healthy life style it is essential that they bring a bottle of water to drink during the day in addition to a healthy snack for break time. We are encouraging the children to drink and eat smart by keeping hydrated through the day and giving them plenty of opportunities to help themselves to water and also be conscious of what they are eating. Please can we remind you of the importance of **having a fruit or vegetables based healthy snack**. We will be monitoring the snacks this term and will offer healthy fruit snacks to anyone with unhealthy snacks such as biscuits and cakes.

Reading and Library Books - This term we are training the year 2 children up to use the library more independently, many children in Year 2 are very enthusiastic readers and we would like to harness this enthusiasm by sharing favourite books and authors in class and changing their reading and Library books regularly. It is essential that your child remembers to bring their book bag to school every day. Book bags are needed for Library, Quiet reading, Shared reading, Group reading sessions and spelling activities as well as Individual reading to teachers, classroom assistants and parent helpers. Children should have two reading books of their colour, a group reading book (which is changed in class once a week), a Reading Log Record in which we encourage the children and adults who hear them to keep a record of the books they have read and any Home Learning that they have completed and a Non Fiction Library book. A record is kept of books going in and out of the library, so it is important that children do not put their books back without registering them, all of the children are learning about this in our group reading sessions, so they should soon be experts! Please try to find time to read with your children at home, whether they are fluent or not, sharing books together on a daily basis will help them to become more confident and develop a love for books.

Spelling and Home learning Activities - Children will be bringing spellings home each week on a Friday, to be learned for the following Friday, the children write these in their home learning diaries, but also bring home an additional sheet to practise on. **Spelling is also our priority this term!** In order to reach age related expectations for writing children are required by the government to do the following...spell **many** words correctly using their sounds; spell **many** common exception words; add suffixes such as ment, ness, ful, less and ly and spell **some** of these correctly and spell **some** words with contracted forms - eg don't, haven't, I'll, I'm. These are clearly very demanding expectations and therefore in order for your child to reach these challenging goals we need you to help and support your them at home. How can you support your child? Learn weekly spellings in whatever way you like, make it fun, short and frequent. Look at, read, notice spelling patterns and ways of remembering these in common exception words (these can be found in the middle of the reading record). Play word and spelling games at home and notice some spellings when you are reading.

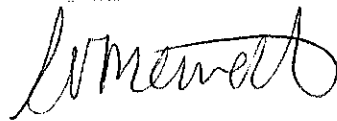
Mathletics, Reading Eggs and Purple Mash - Children all use these sites regularly at school and can continue to log in in the same way at home. In doing this, may we remind you of the school's policy on using the Internet at home, which is to always supervise your child when using the Internet and to use ICT when around others in the household.

Assembly - Our assembly this term will be on Friday 24th March at 9:20am in the school hall. You are more than welcome to come along and see for yourself what fun we have been having this term.

PE - Please could you ensure that your child has a full PE kit in school; some items of clothing have become a little tight over the holidays! As the weather is colder this term I would also like the children to bring trainers and tracksuit bottoms for outside PE, it is also useful if they have a spare pair of socks, our PE sessions take place on Wednesday morning and Friday afternoons

Rights and Responsibilities - We have been thinking about how we can ensure that our classroom remains a happy, safe and fair place to be. We have renewed our class charter, which states our rights and the responsibilities we have to ensure these rights are fulfilled. The class charter is used in conjunction with the DASP Caterpillars to support expectations for behaviour. Our class rules continue to be constantly and consistently reinforced. The children earn rewards for all of their good learning behaviour by earning superhero points and marbles for the class jar which is filling up nicely!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Johnson'.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Mewett'.

Miss A Johnson and Mrs C Mewett

Year 2 Class Teachers