



West Hill Primary School
(a partner in the SMILE Learning Trust)
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18th January 2019

CLASS 2 SPRING TERM CURRICULUM LETTER

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Below are some of the learning opportunities that the children will have this term. As you will see there is a great deal of variety, which will include different learning styles to cater for individual needs and interests. The term is very short, and pupils in Year 2 start to undertake their 'special activities' (SATs). Therefore, please try to ensure full attendance and lots of early nights!

English: Our focus this term will be on grammar. The children need to be able to identify and use different sentence types: questions; commands; exclamations and statements. They need to be able to extend their sentences using conjunctions, e.g. because, if, but, so, and using adjectives and adverbs. Of course, they also need to be able to punctuate the sentences correctly, including using capital letters for proper nouns. We will continue to enjoy different styles of text and writing and practise our skills in other curriculum areas. Some children will begin to use paragraphs in their writing.

As a class we are learning to join our handwriting. The children should start to join two and three letter words when completing their homework (it may be a couple of weeks before some children start to feel confident doing this). Please note as a school our handwriting scheme does not join from hanging letters or closed letters; e.g. g, j, p, y and b.

Mathematics: The children have made a fantastic start this term and have been working hard on telling and writing the time to five minutes, including quarter past and quarter to the hour. Please continue to support your child with this, giving them lots of experience of telling the time at home.

In their number work, the children are practising counting in threes, ordering numbers up to one hundred, and writing the numbers in digits and words. The children will use their knowledge of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division to solve problems and they will develop their understanding of fractions. We will also start work on 3 dimensional shapes and will continue to look at measures, including money. Where appropriate, the maths will sometimes be linked to computing.

Throughout all the maths sessions the children will be encouraged to undertake problem solving activities. The nrich website (nrich.maths.org) is highly recommended for fun activities to promote strategic thinking. Activities, which link to the children's learning will continue to be set on 'My Maths', please keep an eye on the website.

Science: This term our topic is 'Materials' and the children will look at their uses, properties and how they can change using different methods such as heating and cooling.

History: Before half-term, we will be finding out about The Great Fire of London. The children will be learning about how life was different in the past and how important events can shape the future, as well as developing their research skills. This work will link with the children's science and literacy topics.



Geography: After half-term, we will be exploring the topic of 'Island Life' through the popular Katie Morag stories. We will be developing map reading skills and using photographs to compare different places.

In **Art and Design** we will be studying the work of the Scottish artist, Charles Rennie Mackintosh. The children will be creating iconic images using clay, observational drawing, colour mixing and collage materials.

P.E: This term we will be having our PE lessons on Wednesdays and Fridays (weather permitting). Up to half-term, the children will be undertaking an 'Attack, Defend and Shoot' unit of work with Mr. Webster, and on Fridays continuing a 'Send and Return' unit which involves using racquets and playing tennis games. These sessions will be outside so the children will need to ensure they have their tracksuit bottoms and trainers in school. After half-term, we will be developing gymnastic skills in the Village Hall.

Computing: The children are learning about data bases, and how to contribute information they have collected to graphs and pictograms on the computer. Staying safe on the computer will continue to be part of the children's learning this term, as will creating algorithms in coding. In addition, the children will be taking part in a two day animation project based on 'The Snow Queen' on the 24th and 25th January.

PSHE: Recognising and talking about their feelings is an important part of the children's learning in PSHE. We will focus on personal strengths and the children will set goals for themselves.

Design Technology: Cooking will be our focus after half-term. We will look at planning, making and evaluating something healthy.

Music: After half-term, the children will be building on their pitch skills using recorders.

R.E: We will be exploring the theme of leaders and teachers within Christianity and Judaism.

As always, we ask you to check that your child is completing their homework to a suitable standard and is handing it in on time. For most children, the spelling homework can move on from sentence writing to story, poetry or diary writing. Most homework activities are based on work previously done in class, the exception to these being research activities. Please check your child's homework book so they complete the correct task and that they have adequate time. Unless you are doing extra, the maths should take no longer than 30 minutes, and the spelling work should take approximately 15 minutes per evening.

Extra bits

We hope you will be able to join us for our sharing assembly on Friday 15th March at 10.10am

We are currently looking at booking another school trip – details to follow.

Parents' evenings will be on Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th March, where you will be able to come and look at your child's work and discuss their progress. However, if you have any concerns in the meantime please come and see me.

If there are any parents who would like to volunteer to help out during our animation workshops on 25th and 26th January, please get in contact!

Have a happy term.

Yours Sincerely,

A. Joseph
Mr. Joseph