

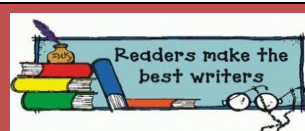
Year 2 Spring Newsletter 2017

Welcome to the Spring term. In year 2 we aim to create an enjoyable, engaging and exciting atmosphere for your child to learn and grow in. Our team works as hard as possible so that your child is happy, grows in confidence and looks forward to every school day. We encourage team work, kindness and dedication as well as creativity and imaginative ideas. With hard work and enthusiasm we can work together to ensure that your child gets as much as possible out of this term.

There are a lot of exciting things to look forward to this term, such as; Maths and Science week, Book day and an amazing new trip to The Transport Museum.

Thank you for all your continued support. I look forward to a fantastic term ahead!

Miss Jones and Ms Croitoriu



Literacy



In Literacy we use a scheme called The Power of Reading which enables us to create wonderful and exciting ideas linked to the story books we are reading. As a class we will be looking at the books 'The Necklace of Raindrops,' 'The Enormous Crocodile' and 'The Diary of the Killer Cat.' Through the imaginative ideas in the story we will create writing such as letters, descriptive posters and narrative pieces. We aim to make Literacy lessons as engaging and creative as possible which ensures that all children are enthusiastic and keen learners.

Everyday children will take part in a 40 minute grammar lesson. They will be taught alternative spellings, how to effectively structure sentences and how to punctuate their work correctly. The children will be given a list of spellings each week to practise at home to consolidate their learning. We will be learning fun ways to remember tricky spellings. Remember to always use the Look-Cover-Write-Check method when practising with your child. Spelling tests will be every **Monday**. Please ensure that your child has their spelling book with them every Monday.

Children are expected to read every day. They should also ensure that their reading log is completed when they take out a new book. Children have the opportunity to change their reading books **every day if they have read and discussed their book**. Each child is aware of their book band level and will read in school on a one to one basis to ensure their reading book is appropriate for their level.

Always encourage your child to read at home and discuss what they liked and disliked about the book. It is also useful to look at the front cover and ask them what they predict the story might be about.

Books will be allocated on our interactive reading resource of Bug Club. It is a very fun way to get your child excited about reading and there are great incentives on the website.

Go to www.activelearnprimary.co.uk (username: your child's name password: supernova)

Other useful websites

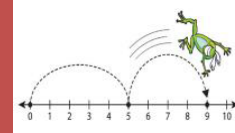
<http://www.educationcity.com>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/english/>

<http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html>



Mathematics



In maths this year the children will be learning to and consolidating their understanding of

- Counting in multiples of 2, 5, 10 and 3.
- Multiplying by 2, 5, and 10
- Dividing by 2, 5, and 10
- Partitioning numbers into tens and units to add and take away
- Adding and taking away on a number line (finding the difference)
- Properties of 2D and 3D shapes
- Telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes
- Money – adding, taking away, multiplying
- Measurement – Length, weight, capacity
- Worded problems involving the four operations
- Fractions

The four operations of add, subtract, multiply and divide will be practised throughout the week using **mental maths skills**.

At Coppermill we understand the importance of teaching maths in an engaging way. The children take part in various practical activities to develop a deeper understanding of complex problems. If you are helping your child at home always bear this in mind; use counting blocks to explore problems or consolidate fractions when sharing pizza.

Mental maths strategies will be taught each week and mental maths tests will be completed every Friday. This is something you can help your child with at home. You can also ask your child what the time is or if they want to help you pay for something using their knowledge of money. Linking maths to the wider world is very important in supporting children's learning and understanding.

Homework will be given out every Friday to be returned on the following Tuesday. If you ever have any questions or queries about the homework please feel free to ask me. It is very important to allow your child to work out the problems independently before asking for help so you can assess their understanding. If you help your child with their maths homework, always allow them to use the method they are learning in school as this consistency supports their maths learning.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their maths skills:

<http://www.educationcity.com>

<http://www.mymaths>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths/>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks1numeracy.html>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm>

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>

<http://www.topmark.co.uk>



Science

This term in Science, the children will be exploring Dinosaurs and Materials. Through both units children will be:

- asking simple questions and recognising that they can be answered in different ways
- observing closely, using simple equipment
- performing simple tests
- identifying and classifying
- using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions
- gathering and recording data to help in answering questions

Below are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their science skills:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/science/>

<http://www.resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/science>

<http://www.kidspot.com.au/kids-activities-and-games/science>



Humanities



In History this term the class will be exploring Transport and Travel over time – looking at the lives and achievements of the Wright Brothers.

In Geography the class will be exploring different continents and linking this to the time of the dinosaurs.

Children will also take part in weekly philosophy sessions through our P4C (Philosophy for Children) curriculum. These help develop their questioning skills and encourage deeper thinking.

Below are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their humanities skills:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/geography/>

<http://resources.woodlands.kent.sch.uk/>



Computing

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their computing skills:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.kidsmart.org.uk

www.light-bot.com

www.code.org

www.scratch.mit.edu

www.kodugamelab.com



Art/Design & Technology

All the Art sessions are linked to the various curriculum areas. In the art sessions, children explore different art techniques such as sketching, collage, working with paints and pastels. The children will learn how to appreciate art through their classmates' creations. They will also be studying various artists and comparing their artwork.

This term the class will be focusing on their sketching skills. They will also be using clay to make dinosaur fossils.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their artistic skills:

<http://www.artsconnected.org/toolkit/index.html>

<http://www.disney.co.uk/disney-junior/art-attack/>



R.E.



In R.E the class will be exploring Christianity and learning about the different features and purposes of the Church. They will be learning about the Christian festival of Easter.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to learn more about this topic:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/>

<http://resources.woodlands.kent.sch.uk/>



P.E.

Children will develop basic game-playing skills, in particular throwing, catching and hitting a ball. They will learn the skills of hockey, as well as athletic activities and gymnastics. We believe fitness is extremely important at Coppermill so each day the children will take part in five minute dance activities, as well as jogging around the playground.

PE day is Friday.

Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school with appropriate footwear. Ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled to avoid any confusion if items are misplaced.



Home Learning

Your child receives:

- Weekly Maths homework to be returned the following Tuesday
- Weekly spellings to be tested each Monday in class
- Daily reading at their ability level to be recorded in their Reading Record books
- Reading comprehension every other week.

Please remember to use the interactive resource of **Bug Club** as well as reading their class reading books. When reading with your child always remember

- Ask them questions about the story
- Ask them to find information from the text
- Ask them what they predict will happen next
- Ask their opinion about the book to encourage discussion (why do you think...)

Homework is handed out each Friday.