

Summer 1 Newsletter Year 2 – Mrs Torrie and Mrs Rogers



Dear Parents,

We hope that you enjoyed a lovely Easter break. It is great to be back and we are looking forward to an exciting summer term.

Curriculum

For this half term, we will be continuing with our 'how does your garden grow?' topic. We will be finding out more about Kew Gardens and the famous people who have worked for or with the gardens. We will also be designing our own garden.

To link with our topic, we will be designing and making mini greenhouses. We will be researching and testing out the best materials for the job before constructing our own.

In English, we will be enjoying the fantastic story of "Jack and the Baked Beanstalk" by Colin Stimpson. The children will be writing letters to Jack to encourage him to or not to climb up the beanstalk to meet the giant. They will also be writing their own version of the story too.

We will also be continuing to enjoy a new text each week as part of our shadowing the Kate Greenaway award.

Thank you for your support in helping us to achieve class handwriting target. The children are very proud of their improved presentation and any additional practise at home would help them to keep up the impressive standard they are now achieving. Examples of cursive letter formation can be found in the back of the communication diary as well as our class page of the website.

In Maths this half term, we will first be learning about time. Children in year 2 are expected to recognise o'clock, quarter past, half past and quarter to times before moving on telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes. Please try to support your child with this at home as it can be a tricky concept for many children to grasp. Following this, we will be learning about mass before revisiting fractions and calculation methods.

In Science, we will be continuing to learn about plants and growing some of our own herbs.

Our RSE overview is on the class page of the website so you can see what is being delivered each half term for the year. We will also be continuing to deliver the My Happy Mind sessions alongside this too.

P.E

We will have just one PE session in school this term which will be on a Monday. All sessions continue to be undertaken outside so please make sure that children have a suitable PE kit. Please also send your child in with a water bottle with their name on it. Please make sure children have their bottles everyday now the weather is getting warmer. The second PE session will be swimming which will take place each Friday. Lots of children are now getting shoes with laces, please work on learning to tie these at home and we will encourage them at school.

Reading

We check communication diaries every day so please continue to make a record of when you have read with your child and do let us know how you feel they have achieved including any sounds or words they have found tricky. We are also rewarding children with 'house points' for any reading they do at home so your support with this is greatly appreciated. Ideally, children in Year 2 need to spend 20 minutes reading at home every day. This can also include some time discussing their reading or answering questions about it to demonstrate their understanding.

For those children who have moved on to 'Accelerated Reader', please do continue to double check that they are reading books suitable for their ZPD range (book level) as this promotes progress. If your child would like to choose books from sources outside of school, please again support them in selecting books within the correct ZPD as this will help them to work on their targeted vocabulary level.

This year, our class author is Kes Gray. We will enjoy his stories in class but the children will also be welcome to take some of these home to read for pleasure. Each week, we will also have a story of the week to promote reading for pleasure. Alongside this, we will continue to enjoy our class text, 'The Adventures of The Wishing Chair'.

Times Tables/ mental maths

To support with the children's mental maths skills, please continue to practise their times tables (through TT-Rockstars) and the related division facts as well as accessing Doodle Maths. The recommended amount of time is 10 minutes daily at home to have the best impact.

We will be celebrating the children's hard work on this at home and school. This will be a big help to them with the upcoming SATs tests.

Spellings

We will be continuing to teach the RWI spelling scheme once children have secured their RWI phonics. The spelling patterns taught through the scheme are listed at the back of the communication book. Alongside this, children in Year 2 are expected to be able to spell the year 1 and 2 common exception words which are listed in the back of the communication diaries. In addition, each child has access to the Spelling Shed website so please do spend some time logging in to this fabulous resource each week at home.

Toys/ items from home

Please do not allow your child to bring toys or teddies in to school as we would much rather they stayed safe at home than them being damaged or lost in school.

If you have any questions about your child's learning, please write a note in their communication diary as these are checked every day alternatively you can contact us via the school office or email us on year2@actonceacademy.org.uk.

Kind Regards
Mrs Torrie and Mrs Rogers