

Class Two

Curriculum Overview



Up to the 9th February 2018

Thursday 4th January 2018

Dear Parents,

Now the Christmas holidays are over, I am looking forward to a short, but exciting half term. Class Two will be studying the Roman Era, culminating in our fantastic residential trip to Hooke Court with a Roman theme. Everyone is coming along and I can't wait! We should also be able to start using our brand new iPads, kindly donated by the HSFA. We will try our hand at Green Screening first, is a creative way to improve our English skills.

Below is some information that you might find useful over the next half term:

- * PE sessions will be on a Wednesday in the hall from 10 'till 11 and on Friday afternoons on the common, but please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school at all times, including a set of plimsolls, as the day may change due to weather conditions. Thank you to our fantastic volunteers who accompany us to the hall on a weekly basis. We could not do it without you! Please, see Mrs Baker if you may be able to help.
- * Your child should also have coat, hat and outdoor shoes in school at all times and waterproof trousers must be worn if they want to play football at break and lunchtimes.

- * In order to encourage and develop independence in Class 2, we ask that children come into class by themselves using the Class 2 entrance.
- * Pupils are allowed to have their pencil case in school at all times. This may include a fountain pen if your child has been asked to use one by Mrs Hooijmeijer. These can be purchased from the office if needed.

Homework

Homework this year will consist of spelling, reading and times tables, a combination of which should be practised every day. Spellings will be set and tested every Friday, along with the times table your child is working on. In addition to this, your child will also be given periodic project based homework, focussing on their topic work.

Spellings

Spellings will be given out every Friday, with a spelling test the following Friday. Your child should be practising their spellings for a few minutes per day, at least three times per week. This should include; writing the words in sentences and/or writing them down, playing games, using LOOK, COVER, WRITE, CHECK or pyramid writing.

Each week, your child should write each of their spellings out five times in their spelling books and put each of their words into a sentence.

Reading

Your child should be reading at home, whether independently or with adult support, every day. This should be for at least five minutes, preferably longer. When hearing your child read, it is important to discuss what it is they are reading to ensure they fully understand the text. I also ask that you fill in your child's reading record on a regular basis (at least 3 times a week), signing and dating when they have read to you at home.

Multiplication Facts

It is extremely important that children have a secure knowledge of multiplication facts and their inverse (opposite) operation; $3 \times 4 = 12$, $12 \div 3 = 4$ etc, in order to support their learning in other areas of maths. Therefore, your child should be practising their Times Tables at home, with your support and encouragement. This could be a few minutes when they get home from school, after dinner, even around the breakfast table or on a long journey in the car! Even if your child has learned all of their Times Tables, it is still useful to play games or ask them quick fire questions from time to time, so that they stay fresh in their mind. We will test their Times Tables every week after the spelling test.

'Topic Task'

This will be a more researched based project for your child to work on over two or three weeks. The date the work is due to be handed in will accompany the set task. You should support your child with the task and encourage them to be as creative as possible with the way they present their work e.g. posters, leaflets, PowerPoint presentations, reports on visits to museums, models built, art work, project books, etc. Your child will then present their work to the

rest of the class, explaining their methods and what they have found out.

Repeated failure to hand in homework on time or a lack of signatures in the reading diary will result in the loss of playtime.

If you ever have any questions about homework, or anything else during the course of the year, then please don't hesitate to find me before or after school to have a quick chat.

It's already been a great start to the year and I'm really looking forward to 2018 in Class 2.

Mr Hooijmeijer

The Curriculum

English.

During our English lessons, Class 2 will be reading 'Escape from Pompeii': a story set in Roman times, based on the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. The children will be encouraged to find and write their own descriptions of the city of Pompeii, its inhabitants and the eruption. They will then plan their own story of an escape from Pompeii.

We will research all aspects of Roman life, in Britain and abroad, through the many books we have in school, as well as the internet. The children will then write non-chronological reports about an aspect of Roman times of their choice, which we will collate in a class book.

We will have a daily spelling lesson to boost our ability to spell. Usually we will focus on a spelling rule or spelling pattern each week, eg adding -ed to regular verbs or making plurals of nouns. The weekly homework will include words that follow this pattern or rule.

We will also have regular guided reading sessions, during which the children partake in a rotation of activities. They will read as a group with Mrs Hooijmeijer, do a written task about their shared book and practise independent comprehension questions every week.

How you can help:

- Read with your child at least 3 times a week and ask questions about what they have read.
- Encourage your child to practise their spellings every day. This does not have to take long, but will help them to remember the spellings long term.
- Remind them to write great sentences with their spelling words, using their best handwriting.

Maths

In maths, we will initially look at measurement and geometry, as well as statistics. These are topics, in which children need to apply skills learned so far this year.

The children will continue to learn their times tables, moving on from their 2's, 5's and 10's, to their 3's, 4's and 8's. Our aim is for all children to be confident at all times tables to 12 by the end of Year 4.

We will further develop our understanding of place value and addition and subtraction. This time we will focus on mathematical reasoning and problem solving. Year 3 will work with numbers up to 1,000 and Year 4 beyond that. The children will continue to progress from using concrete equipment to solve problems, to using pictures to help them and finally abstract written methods.

How you can help:

- Practise counting in numbers, especially of the time table your child is learning.
- Ask children to help with adding up shopping, adjusting recipes, telling the time, duration of events, etc.
- Practise telling the time as much as possible, both on an analogue and digital clock. Talk about how long things take and how many minutes until....
- Let them do tasks on Mathletics.com. Each child has a login and can access activities that are adapted according to the maths topic and ability of the child.

Science

In Science we will look at the states of matter. We will explore solids, liquids and gases and look at the water cycle as part of this. As always we try to include as much practical work as possible. Wherever possible, we plan investigations to teach the children how to work scientifically by making tests fair and reporting their findings in a clear way.

Religious Education

In Religious Education, we will explore temptation. We will hear how Jesus was tempted by the Devil in the wilderness and how he resisted him. We will apply this to our own lives and think about how this might affect other's lives.

Art

Our focus will be on improving children's mastery of techniques using pencil and charcoal. We shall look at examples of artists' work as we create our own sketches and pictures on the theme of movement.

Computing

We will use our new iPads as much as possible to enrich other areas of the curriculum. In particular, we will use green screening to report on our Roman theme.

French

We will explore the traditional customs linked with Epiphany. We will continue our work on learning the vocabulary for parts of the body and then move onto learning vocabulary for items of food.

Geography

In Geography, we will take a brief look at volcanoes and in particular Mount Vesuvius. We will explore how they are formed and see the devastation they can cause.

History

In History, we will look at the life of Romans. We will explore when and where they lived, what they ate, how they spent their days and what they have left behind for us.

Music

We shall focus on recorder playing with specific attention given to the stave, notation and reading music as well as working towards improving fingering and breathing techniques. There will

be opportunities to perform alone and in groups of various sizes as well as to play music in two and three parts.

Personal, Social and Health Education

Our topic in PSHE will be 'Friends' We will explore what makes a good friend and how you can be one through P4C and circle time activities.

PE

We will take a break from the REAL PE scheme for a few weeks in the hall, to use the skills we have learned so far this year onto the apparatus and to explore forces of nature and Roman army movements in dance.

Outside, we will be using a number of small sided team games to develop teamwork and a sense of winning and losing and how best to handle these emotions in sporting activities.

Useful Websites

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

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education>

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/mathsgames/7-11-years>

http://www.dancemattypingguide.com/dance-mat-typing/level1_stage1.html