



January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,
Welcome back! We hope you had an enjoyable and restful holiday.

Curriculum

English

We will start with a non-fiction unit based around a book called *The Emperor's Egg*. We will learn all about the life-cycle of a penguin and will write a non-fiction report page about Emperor penguins. We will also write a setting description and a poem about Antarctica. We will then do a unit on **instruction writing**. Children will create their own outside games and will write instructions for how to play them using imperative verbs and time conjunctions.

Maths

We will finish our work on **money** and start a unit on **multiplication and division**. Children will be learning a range of strategies to solve multiplication and division problems.

Science

We will be learning about **plants**, including the different parts of plants, their life cycle, germination, looking at which plants we can eat and comparing different plants.

Geography

Our topic this half-term is **China**. We will be looking at where China is in the world, some of its key human and physical geographical features, discovering features of its biggest city, Shanghai, and comparing it to London, as well as learning about farming, crops and Chinese exports.

PE

We will be doing lots of **games** that focus on agility, balance and coordination. We will also be doing some **gymnastics** and **dance**.

Music

In music, we will be listening, appraising and singing songs with a Victorian theme. We will be learning about **call and response** songs, **ostinatos**, **pulse**, **rhythm** and **pitch**.

Computing

In computing, we will start **programming** using the program Scratch Junior.

PHSE

Our PHSE lessons this half-term will focus on **health and well-being**, including steps to success, having a growth mindset, healthy eating and looking after our teeth.

Religion and Worldviews

Our unit this term explores ideas about **the natural world and our place in it** and how they relate to religious and other beliefs. The unit will cover some of the beliefs associated with Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism and Humanism.

Headteacher Leon Choueke

Reading

Please make sure your child brings in their books and reading journal on their reading day. Your child will continue to take part in a guided reading session and new books will be sent home for them each week. It is important that you continue to read with your child at home regularly.

Spelling

We will continue sending home 6 spellings per week to learn by the end of the week. We will send home a spelling activity sheet every Tuesday which children can complete at home. The spellings can also be found on Parent Hub every week.

Handwriting

We will practise handwriting three times a week. This term we will focus on joining certain letters together.

More detailed information about what we will learn each week can be found on the **Weekly Overview**, posted weekly on **Parent Hub**.

MyMaths

Some new activities for this term have been added to MyMaths. There are a range of activities based on what we are learning at school this term, including money, multiplication and division. Some of the activities your child may be able to do independently, but with some of them your child may need some adult support.

School Trip

As part of our learning on the **Victorians**, which will take place next half-term (Spring 2), we have booked a trip to **Tower Bridge** on the **7th and 8th March 2024**. We will take part in a Victorian Thames workshop to find out why Tower Bridge was built, and what life was like on the London docks of 1894. We will explore the sights and smells of London's docks through historical sources, developing enquiry and analytical skills to uncover the relationship between the Thames, international trade, and Tower Bridge.

2P and **2R** will go on **Thursday 7th March**

2B and **2O** will go on **Friday 8th March**

Children will need a packed lunch on the day of their trip. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you will need the school to provide a packed lunch for your child. We have a limited number of adult tickets so please speak to your class teacher if you would like to accompany us on this trip as a parent helper.

Dates for your diaries

Friday 19th January: Sibling photos

Monday 29th January: INSET day (school is closed for all children)

If you have any questions or queries then please make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher.

We are looking forward to a very happy and successful term.

Yours sincerely,
The Year 2 Team

Headteacher Leon Choueke

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