

Dear Year 2 Parents / Carers,

We hope you had a lovely half term break and are looking forward to the busy term ahead! This newsletter will provide you with useful information about work that your child will be covering this half term. Can we please remind you how important it is for your child to be in school every day, on time in the correct uniform. School starts at 9:00 and they will continue to come in through the same path around the school as the previous half term. **Attendance is crucial for children to continue to make good progress this year. If your child is absent please ensure that you ring the school by 9.00 am to inform of the reason for absence. A note must also be written explaining your child's absence on their return to school.**

### Maths

Children will continue with their maths curriculum using the Maths Mastery scheme. They will learn how to draw and measure lengths in centimetres and how to use  $>$   $<$  and  $=$  to compare and order lengths in metres and centimetres. We will also learn how to represent and interpret: pictograms, block diagrams, tables and tally charts. We focus on our 2,5 and 10 times tables and their inverse (division). To help your child with learning their tables, you can encourage them to start by learning them in order ( $1 \times 2 = 2$ ,  $2 \times 2 = 4$  etc.), then challenge your child by asking them questions in a random order ( $3 \times 2 = ?$   $6 \times 2 = ?$ ). We will continue to look at place value and ordering. We will be increasing the range of vocabulary in multiplication and division word problems including lots of, groups of, total and sharing.

### English

This half term children will be studying explanation texts, stories about the Great Fire of London, non-chronological reports and poetry. As part of the new SATs tests the children will sit at the end of Year 2, there is now a separate GP&S (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) section of the paper. The expectation is higher than before and so we will be having a bigger drive on the more technical side of grammar (adjectives, nouns, verbs, adverbs, possessive and contractive apostrophes for example). We will be arranging a parent session for you to all see some of the questions from the tests and so we can explain to you how else you can help your child - details to follow.

### Cross-Curricular Topic work

In Science we will be carrying out different investigations performing simple tests and using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions. Children will be learning all about the Great Fire of London in their History lessons. They will have the opportunity to look at different sources of information, question why events happened and sequence events and writing diaries in the character of Samuel Pepys. In DT, the children will also be creating a diorama (a 3D scene) of the Great Fire. Art will also be linked to our History topic and we will recreate scenes from the Great Fire of London.

### Phonics

During our daily Phonics sessions we will continue to work on a variety of sounds. We follow the Letters and Sounds Programme and will introduce new sounds as and when your child is ready. Each week children will bring home up to 10 spellings to learn in preparation for a short test, usually held on a Friday. Spellings are usually linked with the sounds that the children have been learning, or words specific to a topic of learning. Please encourage your child to practise these each week.

### P.E.

We have P.E. on alternating Tuesdays and Mondays. The first PE session will be on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of November. Children **MUST** come to school dressed in their PE kit on this day rather than their uniform. There may be other times where a PE kit is required and we will inform you beforehand.

The P.E. kit should be - shorts, plain white t-shirt and plimsolls (tracksuit bottoms and jumper are permitted in winter months). Children should not wear any jewellery on PE days.

**Homework will be set on a Friday to be handed in on the following Wednesday.**

Practising spellings with your child and supporting them with their homework over the weekend is strongly encouraged.

Many thanks,  
Ms Kidwai (Chestnut Class) and Mr Houseago (Cedar Class)

