



Fern Class News

Spring Term 2 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term. We hope you enjoyed the holidays and we are really pleased to see that the children have arrived back in school as enthusiastic as ever. The children really enjoyed our Geography topic all about 'Hot and Cold Places' and it is great to see them building on their knowledge of the continents and oceans. We have been working really hard on our handwriting and spellings and this is something that we will continue to focus on this half term. The children are becoming increasingly confident about talking about their learning in school and hopefully they are able to tell you at home about what they have been doing and about the knowledge and skills they have gained.

We have been particularly impressed with the children's amazing skills in coding in our computing lessons. They have loved developing their own simple programs and have shown great problem solving skills.

Fern Class are also superb artists! We have really enjoyed seeing their work from both our art lessons and also art club.

PE Times and Kits:

This half term, we are doing PE on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please ensure that children have their PE kits with them on these days.

Thank you!



Maths at Home:

Every morning, when the children come into class, they practise their Year 2 spellings and then they solve mixed maths calculations involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We mix up how the calculations are presented; sometimes having the answer first and missing numbers, such as:

$$23=20+?$$

It is really important that the children know their number bonds to 10 (e.g. $3+7=10$), fluently so that they can apply this knowledge to number bonds to 20 (e.g. $13+7=20$), and to number bonds to 100 (e.g. $30+70=100$). It would be very beneficial if you could practise these at home to ensure that your child has this knowledge at their fingertips.

Reading:

The children continue to be confident about changing their own reading books and talking to us about the books they are reading. It is great to see that most children are continuing to read regularly at home. In school, we are continuing to have a big focus on comprehension and ensuring that children understand the words they are reading and the nuances of what is happening in their stories. Sometimes, when children are fluent readers, we assume that they are reading with understanding.

However, following questioning, we find that they haven't grasped the more subtle clues in the texts. Please continue to ask your children to summarise what they have been reading and ask them some questions related to the text.

Spellings and Homework:

Please continue to practise the common exception words for Year 1 and 2. A copy of these can be found at the front of your child's homework book. Children need to be able to read and spell all of these words by the end of Year 2.

We are endeavouring to help the children to become more independent with their equipment, reading books and homework books in preparation for Key Stage 2. We are working on children being able to independently hand in their homework books on a Monday and to also ensure that they have their reading books and belongings at the end of the day. Thank you for all of your support with this too.

We can't believe that we are half way through the year but it has been wonderful to see all of the progress that your children have already made and we know that they will continue to do so.

As always, please come and see us if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you

Miss Bommel and Mrs Jennings

