



# Year 2 Newsletter Spring 2018

Happy New Year!

We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas break.

Thank you so much for all of our lovely Christmas cards and gifts.



## Topic

Our topics this term both have a history focus. During the first half term, we will be shooting off into space 'To infinity and Beyond!' studying the history of space exploration and the first moon landing. We will be comparing Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus and differences in ways of life in the different periods of time. In science, we will be looking at materials and considering their properties and uses. We will investigate which materials are most suitable for specific purposes. We are looking forward to welcoming 'Spectac-u-lab' on 31<sup>st</sup> January who will be leading a balloon powered rocket session focussing on forces. In the second half term we will be studying the life of Florence Nightingale and her work in the Crimean War and will be visited by 'Florence Nightingale' who will bring the topic to life with stories and activities. Further details of these activities will follow nearer the time.

## Homework

Each Friday your child will bring home a reading comprehension activity. Please encourage them to complete this work as independently as possible.

## Acre Spells

Acre Spells will continue to be sent home weekly. Please use the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' method to help your child to learn their spelling strings before writing their sentences and encourage them to write neatly. Completed sheets should be returned to school so that the children can earn 'smiles' for their hard work.

## Reading

All children read to teachers regularly at school during guided reading sessions but the importance of reading with your child at home every night cannot be over-emphasised. To encourage more reading at home, our class target for both classes this half term is for every child to read at least 3 times a week at home. The children will choose a 'reward' for achieving this and as always, we would be grateful for your support. Whilst we would prefer that children read their school books as often as possible, children may also read books from home or library books but please remember to record these in their reading logs. There is no expectation that children finish their books every night and even 10 minutes a day makes a huge difference. Regular reading improves speed and fluency which in turn improves comprehension. It also extends vocabulary which improves writing.

## Number Platforms

Thank you for your support with these. Most children are making good progress and your help at home is a vital part of their continued success.

## PE

P.E. lessons will continue to be on Thursdays. Please ensure that children have both an indoor and outdoor kit in school at all times. All items should be clearly named.

## Year 2 SATs

In May, we are required to assess your children through formal tests. The year 2 curriculum is very demanding and SATs are challenging. As ever, we will try and make the process as relaxed as possible but preparation is definitely the key. Your support with all of the work sent home will be a huge boost to your child's confidence. Please also come along to our SATs meeting on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm to find out how you can help your child and we will try and address any queries or concerns you may have.

Please avoid unauthorised absences during May.

Many thanks for your continued support,  
Mrs Redfearn and Miss Matthews.