



Class 2 Newsletter Term 1 2020/21



Dear Parents,



A big, warm welcome to Class 2! I hope you all had some lovely family time in the sun this summer and feel ready for the year ahead. We have already had such a great start to the school year and I know we're going to achieve so much and have lots of fun along the way!



In all subjects this term, we will be starting with some revision of what they have learnt previously, or completed during Lockdown. This will allow us to learn at the right level for the children.



In **Maths** we shall be looking at number, focusing on reading and writing numbers and counting. We will have a focus on addition and subtraction for both year groups, with the year 2s moving onto looking at multiplication and division later in the term. This term the focus will be on gaining a really good grasp of numbers 0-20 for Year 1 and 0-100 for Year 2. Towards the end of the term, we will be looking at shape, both 2D and 3D.



In **Literacy** we shall be looking at two lovely picture books. The first is "The Something" by Rebecca Cobb, which is about a hole in a little boy's garden and the imaginative ideas his family has about what might be in the hole. The second book is "House Held up by Trees" by Ted Kooser, which looks at what happens to a well-loved house when the people who live there grow old and eventually have to move away. Both books should inspire some fantastic creative writing.



I would prefer for the children not to have seen these books before we study them, as I would like the children to make predictions about what might happen.



In **History**, we will be learning about how houses have changed throughout history from the Celts up to the modern day. After half term, we will be learning about the Great Fire of London and making links between what we know about how houses were made and why the fire spread so quickly.



We will be using a few **Geography** skills this term when we look at maps of the local area and where the houses in our village are.



In **Science** this term we will be learning about everyday materials and learning the difference between objects and the materials they are made from. We will be sorting and grouping materials and testing the properties of these materials.



In **RE** we will be learning about how Christians say thank you to God, what Christians think God is like and why Christmas matters to Christians.



In **Art**, we will be learning how to draw using different medium, such as: pencils, wax crayons, pens and charcoal. We will put these skills together to make sketches of the houses in the local area.



In **Music**, we are going to use a BBC unit called "No Place Like" by composer Kerry Andrew which involves us responding to music and composing our own piece about the places that we live.



In **Computing** this term we will be focusing on typing, learning where the keys are on a keyboard and increasing our speed and accuracy when typing short and longer words.





Later in the term we will be doing a **DT** project to build a model house, thinking about how to make the structure of the house strong.



In **PSHE**, using the Jigsaw scheme, the children will be thinking about and discussing what it means to Be Me in My World before Celebrating Differences in term 2.



PE will be taught by All Star Soccer, who will be teaching the children football skills. These sessions will be on a Tuesday morning. Then on a Thursday morning, Mrs Hall will be teaching the children Striking and Fielding skills. Please ensure that your child has appropriate PE Kit ready on those two days.



Homework

Your child will have a Home Learning Book with a menu inside. They may choose any of the activities to complete. I expect the children to complete 1 activity a week and to write their responses in their book. This will be given out on a Wednesday and handed in on a Monday.



Reading

Every child should be reading for a minimum of 10-15 minutes each evening. This is perhaps the most important piece of homework! Remember to discuss the book, pick out favourite words, retell the story and make the reading fun! Remember that your child does not need to read really challenging books at home – any more than 5 mistakes on a page and the book is too hard! This is the ‘five finger rule’ that we use in class. If your child is tired, support them by reading together or just sharing a book and talking about the characters, plot, setting – this is very important when learning to read.



All reading should be recorded on the Reading Record Booklet and then brought to school to be stamped – a certificate will be given in Thursday assemblies for each completed booklet.



Spelling

Inside your child’s homework book will be a list of spellings for each week of the term. Please support your child in learning these words each week as I will be testing them on the spellings every Wednesday morning. The spellings that they will have are the common exception words for Year 1 or Year 2 and they will have 5 to learn each week. Once they have mastered these words, then I will start setting them words that are related to their Phonics Phase.



Mathletics

Please continue to work on Mathletics at home. The children have been given a new log-in card, although their log-in details have not changed! I appreciate that many parents aren’t happy with their children having a lot of screen time, but just 10 minutes on Live Mathletics will greatly benefit your child’s number handling skills



Here are a few reminders for this term:



Timings

School starts at 8:55am. Please drop your child off at 8.50am in the playground where I will meet them and take them into the cloakroom as a class.



School ends at 3:15. I will bring your child out to the playground to meet you. Please be standing socially distanced, on the yellow footprints nearest to Class 2; 1 family group per footprint. Please make your way home as soon as possible as Key Stage 2 children will be coming out at 3.20.



Uniform

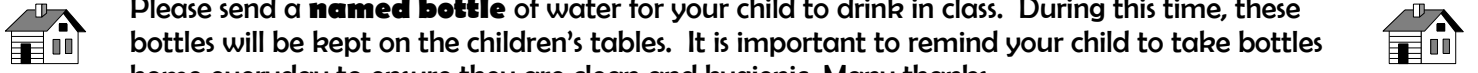
Please check that all of your child’s uniform is clearly labelled with their name – this saves so much time when trying to sort out clothing! Many thanks.





Water Bottles

Please send a **named bottle** of water for your child to drink in class. During this time, these bottles will be kept on the children's tables. It is important to remind your child to take bottles home everyday to ensure they are clean and hygienic. Many thanks.



Stationery

Your child will have all the stationery they need provided for them. At the moment it is important that the children do not share stationery due to the possible spreading of coronavirus. There is no need for the children to bring in pencil cases from home, however if they do bring in their own stationery, then I must insist that the pencil case is small enough to fit into their tray so that the tables are completely clear for cleaning during and at the end of the day.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me at hsullivan@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk

**Many thanks
Mrs Sullivan**

