



Penguin Class

Term 1 - September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

A big welcome back to Year 2. We hope you have had an enjoyable summer break and that your child is refreshed and ready to start an exciting new school year in Penguin Class. We would like to share with you the topics your child will be learning so we can work together to provide all the support your child will need.

English, Maths, Science and RE are given a greater proportion of the weekly timetable.

English:

Different stories from the author Oliver Jeffers, instructional writing, dictionary skills

These units of study offer a variety of writing opportunities; encouraging your child to develop both as a reader and a writer. Your child will be gaining confidence to discuss their understanding of the stories and use words and sentences effectively to improve their writing and reading comprehension.

Maths:

Place value to 100, addition and subtraction, money, multiplication and division

Please encourage your child to talk about the methods and strategies they have learnt in school to secure their understanding further. Please support your child to practise reading numbers and handling coins in context to increase fluency and thereby strengthening their application to a variety of mathematical concepts.

Creative Curriculum

Term	Topic	Example coverage
1	USA	Map skills, landmarks, Native American culture, traditions and famous Americans.
2	Weather	Weather patterns, extreme weather, and measuring different types of weather.
3	Oceans, lakes and seas	Famous boats, Christopher Columbus, naming oceans, artists that use water and water experiments
4	The Great Fire of London	The story of the Great Fire of London, Samuel Pepys, building structures and fire safety.
5	Minibeasts and plants	Allotments, growing plants and seeds, healthy eating, pond life and life cycles.
6	Dinosaurs	Types of dinosaur and the lead up to their extinction.

National tests:

Your child will complete Standard Attainment Tests (SATs) at the end of the year. These are statutory tests that allow your child's progress to be measured nationally and compared to an average national score. They should not be a cause of concern for them as we are preparing for these tests from September.

Leading up to the SATs, your child will follow the National Curriculum, and their progress is tracked using 'expected', 'exceeding' and 'emerging' categories against their ability to meet the objectives for Year 2. We expect that all children will start at the 'emerging' status, as they begin the Year 2 Curriculum, and then develop into the 'expected' category by the end of the year.

Phonics:

Children will have regular phonics lessons linked to spelling patterns and strategies for Year 2. They will be assessed throughout the year. Some children will also resit the phonics screening. This will be the same format as last year.

Reading:

It is very important that you listen to your child read every day. Reading books can be changed once your child has read the book twice on separate days. Please encourage them to discuss the story or information text to develop good comprehension skills. This will lead to your child becoming an enthusiastic reader whilst also improving their writing skills. Your child should read a range of books from their reading level and then move to the next level of the reading scheme when their reading is fluent. As your child moves along the reading schemes, they will be given comprehension activities linked to some of the books.

Homework:

Your child will be given homework once a week including one piece of Maths work linked to the multiplication facts and one piece of English work linked to Year 2 common expectation words. Both pieces of homework will be set on a Thursday and collected on the following Thursday.

At the beginning of the Term 1, 3 and 5, your child will have a 2-week homework project based on the Creative Curriculum topic in place of the Maths and English homework. This will be given out Friday 14th September and due Friday 28th September.

Equipment:

PE lessons are on Mondays and Thursdays. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school for both indoor and outdoor PE. Earrings will need to be removed or taped. **Please have all pieces of clothing clearly labelled, especially school jumpers.** Your child should also have a water bottle in school that is filled with water. They may drink this in the classroom during the day to remain hydrated. Children can bring in wellington boots for woodland activities and lunch times. We ask that these are also clearly named.

We look forward to a fun-packed and busy year. If you have any concerns or queries, please contact me informally at the school gate or we can arrange a meeting in the classroom.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Attubato

Mrs Attubato, Mrs Bowyer and Miss Rapo