

Wren Class Update - Summer Term 1

Dear Parents,

Please find the attached overviews for this half-term. We have included a knowledge organiser for our geography topic '**Why do we love to be beside the Seaside?**' with some of the key skills and vocabulary highlighted.

Reading

Reading continues to be such an important skill and we really do value all the hard work you are putting in at home to support the children. Please continue to hear your child read on a daily basis if possible, a regular 10-20 minutes of focused reading really does have a huge impact on their skills and confidence.

Accelerated Reader

We have more children this half term who have progressed off the phonics scheme onto Accelerated Reader. You may find your child comes home with a book with a number on the spine e.g. 2.5. The children are encouraged to read the book at least twice to develop their fluency and comprehension skills. When they feel confident they take a 5 minute quiz at school, with questions about the book. Their comprehension score will dictate the next level of difficulty. The children self-select these books from the library and change them on successful completion of the quizzes. Hearing your child read their AR book aloud at home is still incredibly important as it gives them a chance to discuss the meaning of tricky vocabulary and develop their fluency, expression and attention to punctuation.

Reading comprehension

This term we will be looking at and completing a varied range of reading comprehensions including fiction and non fiction. **Without comprehension, children gain no meaning from what they read.** Comprehension strategies are used to increase children's understanding of the text to help them become active readers by engaging with the text. Children always enjoy our reading comprehension sessions as we encourage them to use the bright highlighters! You can help us by asking your child a selection of questions about the text that they have read, whilst reading at home.

Spelling and handwriting

This weekly homework reflects the spelling and handwriting patterns covered in class. Your child should have an exercise book at home that was given out at the start of the year, please continue to use this to practice in. There is no expectation that this homework is brought back into school.

Many of the Year 2 children are now joining clearly. Practising on the lines will help make sure letters like p,q,b,d are appropriately sized. We focus on using a "lead in stroke" in the style of handwriting taught at St Catherine's. There is no expectation that Year 1 children should be able to join but to help them progress we always encourage them to "start on the line and

whoosh in to the letter's starting position". Please find additional handwriting resources attached that model this in more detail.

Spellings this term may focus on the common exception words that they are expected to know by the end of year 1 and year 2.

Maths

Mrs Norris will continue to set weekly times table homework. We would like to take this opportunity to say 'Thank you' for helping your child to learn their times table facts. The instant recall of these facts are so important within their mathematics learning.

Year 2 camp

We are luckily enough to once again run our overnight camp for our **Year 2 children**. This will be held in July. More details to follow.

PE

PE once again will take place on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. Now that the weather is a lot brighter, please ensure that the children wear the appropriate PE kit and trainers for lots of running and games outside. It is not safe for us to carry out these activities in their school shoes.

SATs

We, as teachers, are responsible for judging the standards your child is working at in English reading, English writing, mathematics and science, by the end of key stage 1. To help inform those judgements, pupils sit national curriculum tests in English and mathematics, commonly called SATs. They will also sit a test in English grammar, punctuation and spelling. The tests are a tool for us to help us measure your child's performance and identify their needs as they move into key stage 2. They also allow us to see how your child is performing against national expected standards. The tests will be taken during May and they are not strictly timed. Pupils may not even know they are taking them as we will incorporate them into everyday classroom activities.

Please catch us on the playground before or after school if you have any questions. Thank you for all your support- We feel very lucky to have such an awesome class.

Mrs Norris and Mrs Talbot