

Weekly updates 15th February.

EYFS Weekly update

We have all had a wonderful time celebrating Valentine's Day and sending messages and making things for our friends and families. After half term we will be focussing on all things Super! From worms and vegetables and being super fit....as well as heroes too! We will be doing lots of counting forwards and backwards and matching different quantities to a number in maths.

Please let us know what you get up to over the holiday on Tapestry!

Nursery

After half term the letter of the week is 'k'. Thank you so much for continuing to support us with the sound of the week, the children love talking about the things they have brought in.

We are looking forward to reading the story of Superworm and we are hoping to make our own wormery too! We will be learning more Nursery and Number rhymes.

Reception

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Parent's Evenings, it was lovely for us to be able to tell you how brilliant they are! All the children have made great progress this half term despite all the bugs! Please continue to hear your child read regularly at home. As many of you asked for ideas of things you can do at home we have compiled a list of ideas that you may like to try over the holiday.

We hope you have a lovely break, from all the EYFS Team.

Year 1

It was lovely to see many of you at the recent Class 4 parent consultation evenings. It was a valuable opportunity to update you on your child's progress and for you to look at all of their work. Class 3's parent consultation evenings will be rearranged for after Half Term.

When we return to school after the half term week we will be basing our literacy around 'Mrs Armitage On Wheels', the start of our topic on journeys. In maths we will be working on place value of numbers up to 50. PE will continue to be inside on a Tuesday with two weeks of yoga, followed by a unit of country dancing! Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for outdoor PE on a Friday afternoon.

We hope you all enjoy a happy and healthy Half Term week. If you have any spare time you may like to visit www.phonicsplay.co.uk where you will find some useful phonics games to enjoy. Thank you for your support.

The Year One Team

Year 2

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Parent's Evenings – we hope you found the mid-year reports helpful.

This week the children finished off their Arctic topic by experimenting with different ways to melt ice. We have also tried paper quilling to make some symmetrical snowflakes – the children made some beautiful art and had some great maths conversations at the same time!

There is no homework this week as we wanted the children to have a break over half-term. It would be helpful if they continued to read regularly – they are all making good progress and we want that to continue! Some parents have asked for a guide on how children should join their letters; we will send a sheet home in the homework folders when we come back from the half-term break.

Our next topic will be 'Year 2 Are Making A Zoo'. We are imagining that we are opening our own zoo, and there's lots of planning to be done – writing leaflets, learning how to care for the animals, planning meals for the café, measuring food and medicines – we've got a busy half-term ahead!

As previously mentioned, we will have a visit from Kimmy's Zoo after half-term, which the children are already excited about! We have asked for a voluntary contribution of £3.50 per child, but unfortunately few families have made the contribution. Many of the replies state that people have paid online when they haven't – could you please check whether this is the case as it's easy to forget.

Trips and visits such as this are dependent on some form of contribution. We are currently organising a trip to Castle Hedingham for the children in the Summer term – if we don't receive sufficient monies for the Kimmy's Zoo visit then our castle trip will sadly not go ahead. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Enjoy the half term break and we look forward to seeing you after the holiday

YEAR 2 Team

Year 3

Wow! What a busy half term it's been! We will not be starting our Rainforest work until after half term, though we have sent home a new Home Learning Menu this week, with many new activities for your child to choose from. As before, please make sure your child completes one piece per week, to be handed in by Thursday. Also, keep practising times tables, visit Times tables Rock Stars, and hear your child read.

After half term, we will be continuing with Gymnastics on Monday, and our outdoor PE on Tuesdays will be tennis. Our PSHE topic will focus on friendships for the first couple of weeks. In French, we will move on to learning animal names, and in Music we are focusing on composition. We are having a visit from the Dental Nurse in Science to learn more about the function of teeth and how to look after them properly.

Thank you to those who attended the parent's evenings. We are pleased to hear that many of you are keen to support your children with their learning at home. There are many ways to do this. Ask your child what they have been doing in lessons, then find some activities online e.g. Google 'year 3 fractions activities'. There are links on the school website to online games and apps that may prove useful. Many shops sell year group specific 'workbooks'. Do some practical games and activities e.g. counting coins or setting up a 'shop'. Practise spellings in a more creative way e.g. using magnetic letters etc. The Maths calculation policy is available on the school website if you are concerned about using the right Mathematical methods with your child.

Finally, a message from Miss Bradburn: Mrs Cass and Miss Bradburn's English group will have a spelling booklet to work through at their own pace for additional spelling homework. The National Curriculum identifies set spellings for Year 3 and Year 4 together, rather than as individual year groups, and this booklet covers all the common word spellings required for this phase of the primary curriculum.

We do not need the booklet returning to school and we anticipate the booklet will take until after the Easter holidays for children to complete. Every couple of weeks we will send slips out for pupils to identify any particular words they feel they need additional practice at, and we will endeavour to find additional materials to send home to support these words.

We hope you all have a safe and enjoyable half term, and we look forward to seeing you all fully refreshed on Monday 25th February.

Year 3 Team

Year 4

In Science this week we looked at the Tundra biome in greater depth and at how polar bears are adapted for survival in their extreme habitat.

This week in art we created pop-art style self-portraits in the style of Roy Lichtenstein.

In gymnastics the children did mat work. They learned how to safely do a headstand and a cartwheel and they practised these skills. In tag rugby the children are enjoying playing games in the sessions after practising their passes, catching and try scoring skills!

In English both classes have been writing stories set in Antarctica. In Mrs Howell and Mrs Hickey's classes they have retold the adventure and amazing self-rescue of Sir Ernest Shackleton. We are really proud of the super work and effort the children put in.

On Wednesday the children had their reward for filling in their class merit cards for good behaviour. The children were given the option of playing a rugby tournament or watching an Ice Age movie; which tied in nicely with the end of our Polar Regions topic this half term.

It was lovely seeing so many of you at our Parent's evenings on Monday and on the past two Thursdays. We hope that you found the mid-year report and information sheets useful.

Have a lovely half-term break!

Year 4 Team

Year 5

It was lovely to see you all at the parent consultation evenings this week. We hope you found the time beneficial and the mid-term reports useful.

Next half-term, the children will be continuing the science unit about changes in materials and investigating how some materials dissolve into a solution. In French, the children will learn the vocabulary related to places names in a town. In Geography, they will learn how olive oil is made in Catalonia. In RE, the children will look at the life of Jesus. In Art, they will look at Chilean street art and link this to the work of Picasso. Next half-term, outdoor PE continues on Monday. The children will learn hockey skills.

The children have been given a new home-learning menu. The first piece of work is due in on Tuesday, 26th February.

A reminder that the children will be visiting Sybil Andrews on Tuesday 26th February for drama and music. Your child will need to have a packed lunch as we will not be back in time for a school lunch. Please ensure your child has a coat as we will walk whatever the weather. Music will continue in the afternoon as usual so instruments will be required as well.

Have a good half-term.

The Year 5 Teaching Team

Year 6

What a fantastic WW2 week we have all had – we even managed to squeeze in a piece of assessed writing! It was great to see the children in their period costumes – thank you for all of the effort you have put in for this week.

Hopefully, you have been able to see the Sock Monkey they have produced from the pair of socks brought in at the beginning of the week – it was great to see the children persevering with these and pleased with their end product!

After improving the school Anderson shelter with a fresh coat of paint and some new gravel throughout the week, we ended on a VE Day party. Here the children were able to eat what they had made earlier in the day (including a 1940 recipe of potato scones!)

We have not set any new homework to be completed over half term as we would like the children back refreshed after a well-earned rest! However, we do encourage that children continue to read at home and log onto Times Table Rockstars, as well as look over their 100 spellings ready for Friday March 1st.

P.E days will continue to be on the same days next half term. Please ensure your child has correct, labelled, kit in school for the correct day (Wednesday is Indoor P.E and Thursday is Outdoor P.E).

We hope you all have a fantastic half-term break and we look forward to seeing the children refreshed and ready to learn we return.

The Year 6 Teaching Team