

WEEKLY UPDATES 26.04.2019

Early years

We hope you had a wonderful Easter break. Thank you very much for all the photos you have put on Tapestry; the children have really enjoyed showing them to their friends.

We have another request for you all to put photographs on Tapestry! Please could you take photographs of your houses and specific places that you visit in your local area. We will then stick these onto small bricks so the children can incorporate these into their play and we will also use them to form a display. Please don't print the photos because we will need different sizes.

The weather is still quite changeable so please can you make sure your child has a hat and a coat in school.

Nursery

The children have enjoyed exploring all the different areas of the room this week. The changes we have made have already had the desired results and the children are accessing equipment they hadn't used before. The larger creative area has been particularly popular. The children decided they would like to turn the role-play area into a hairdressers and Mrs Gaskin and Mrs Mott have really loved their new hairstyles! All the photos are on Tapestry.

This week we have been finding out about caterpillars and doing a variety of activities focussing on 'The Hungry Caterpillar'. We are expecting a delivery of Caterpillar eggs next week!

Our sound of the week will be 'f'; please can you bring in some objects for us to look at beginning with this sound. Please can you also return any phonics activity bags so we can change them next week.

Reception

This week we have been finding out about the legend of St. George. We have created a large castle in the base and the children have enjoyed pretending to be knights or princesses. They have made swords, shields and the weekly challenge was to cut out some quite complicated shapes to create some armour and dress a knight.

For the rest of this term we will be focussing on how we can look after our world, we will be using the 4r's ...re-use, recycle, repair and reduce.... In maths we will be focussing on counting in 2's and 10's and more addition and subtraction. We didn't have PE this week as it was the first day back but next week will have our outdoor PE session on Wednesdays. Sunshine Class will be changing their book club to Tuesday afternoons.

Next Friday 3rd May will be Mrs Gualda's last day before she leaves on maternity leave.

Have a lovely weekend

From all the EARLY YEARS TEAM

Year 1

Welcome back! We hope you had a good break, the children wrote their holiday news on Tuesday and were very enthusiastic about all the exciting things they had done.

We have begun a new topic of dinosaurs and the children have enjoyed an 'Explorers' morning completing a variety of activities from looking for dinosaur bones in the sand to measuring out the size of a dinosaur on the playground. In maths we have had a reminder on forming our numbers correctly and next week we will begin our work on multiplication and will be continuing counting in 2's, 5's and 10's.

In Art our topic is sculpture, next week we will be sculpting with junk. If you have anything at home that we could use please send it into school with your child before next Wednesday. Thank you.

On a Tuesday and Friday we will be doing outdoor PE, please ensure your child has a named PE kit with trainers/plimsolls in school for the whole week. If your child wears tights please put a spare pair of socks in their PE kit. Long hair should be tied back on both days and earrings removed or covered, thank you for your support.

This Friday we have sent home the Year One homework for the first half of the summer term. This is all based around our dinosaur topic. We would suggest your child chooses one activity a week from the homework grid. We do not need to see homework each week but we will have a 'showing week' at the end of the half term when your child will be able to bring in a piece of homework they are proud of to share with the rest of the class. *More details to follow.*

As the weather is warming up, please provide a named sunhat and a coat in case of showers. Please apply sun cream before your child comes to school, there are now products available which will last the length of the school day. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend,

The Year 1 Team

Year 2

Welcome back – the children have been full of exciting news about what they did in the holidays!

We have begun our 'Living Things' topic by focussing on Minibeasts. This week we have learned about minibeasts we might find in the back garden. We learned how venn diagrams work, and used these to classify minibeasts by looking at wings and how many legs they have. In the coming weeks we will look at microhabitats and go for a minibeast hunt!

This term our indoor PE session is on Mondays, and our outdoor PE is on Wednesdays.

You will be aware that during May, Year 2 undertake SATs in reading, maths and grammar/punctuation/spelling. We will be keeping these tests low-key so as not to cause any worries for the children. There is nothing parents need to do to prepare children for

these. The children sit tests throughout the year and these should feel no different. The results will feed into our teacher assessments, which will be given in school reports at the end of the year.

Have a good weekend

The Year 2 Team

Year 3

Welcome back to the Summer Term! We hope that you had a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

Your child should have received a Home Learning Menu for the Summer Term. We look forward to seeing some more imaginative creations!

A polite reminder to return any outstanding swimming or Banham Zoo permission slips please. We still have several missing and without these cannot take your child off site, thank you.

Our first swimming session is on Tuesday, please ensure that your child has a full named swimming kit, including swimming hat, in an appropriate bag.

Our trip to Banham Zoo is on Thursday. Please ensure that your child is dressed in their school uniform, has a coat and remembers their packed lunch as well as a water bottle.

Next week we will be starting our RE unit of work about the Kingdom of God. We will begin by considering what a kingdom is and making a charter for a new kingdom. In French, we will be learning the vocabulary associated with families, starting with family names e.g. Mum, Dad etc. The children will practise shading techniques in Art and learn how to draw some animal body shapes. The sewing project started last term is just about complete and the felt rainforest animals look wonderful! Our Science lesson will focus on setting up an investigation to test the strength of different rocks.

One final reminder; we will go back to checking reading logs on a Monday during assembly time. Three reads at home during one week with an adult's signature earns one merit. To introduce an element of competition, we will count up which class has the most merits and that class will also earn two class merits!! Get reading!

Have a wonderful weekend,

Year 3 Team

Year 4

Welcome back! We hope that you have had a lovely Easter break! We have enjoyed listening to the children's stories of egg hunts and the fun they had in the lovely sunshine over the Easter weekend!

We have embarked upon the Summer Term with great enthusiasm this week with new topics such as: the Anglo Saxons, collage, dance and French numbers beyond 30.

Your child will need outdoor PE kit on a Tuesday this term and indoor PE kit on a Friday. Recorders will need to be in school on a Tuesday.

You have probably seen in the press and media that the government has introduced a multiplication check for all pupils in Year 4. All year we have been working towards the goal of learning all their times tables by the summer. Most children are on task to achieve this. If your child is struggling then please encourage them to keep practising on Mathletics and Times Tables Rock Stars.

The Multiplication Check will happen between 10th and 28th of June. There will be 25 questions from all the times tables up to 12 x 12. The children will be given 6 seconds to answer each question. We will continue to work on times tables in class every week as we have done since September. Like with reading, those children who succeed are those who practise and consolidate this learning in the peace and quiet of home.

Your child has taken home a new homework menu. Four pieces of completed work need to be handed in by half-term. Those who have not completed work from last term will complete it in school time. This is about teaching children to be independent learners and to be organised about their time. We also want them to enjoy their learning which is why they can choose from a variety of tasks to suit their strengths. It has been lovely sharing work in school that has been done at home and seeing work that has been collaborated upon by family members. For example egg carts which children worked on with grandfathers and cooking with parents or older siblings. We hope you have enjoyed some of the tasks too! All homework should be handwritten by your child as this is more important handwriting practise. To reach the expected standard in Year 4 children should have neat joined handwriting. Thank you for supporting your child with their homework menu.

Have a great weekend!

The Year 4 Team

Year 5

The children have come back to school refreshed and ready to start the new term. We have enjoyed listening to all the lovely things they have been doing in the holidays!

Next week in Geography, the children will be learning about the key features of the Atacama Desert. In Art, the children will be looking at how to portray movement and design their own painting. In Outdoor PE, the children will be doing athletics and, in indoor PE, dance. In Computer, the children will be using 'Scratch' to design architectural drawings. In French, the children will be learning how to ask and say where they are going on holiday.

On Wednesday the children will be visiting Sybil Andrews for Science and Computer activities. We will be there all day so the children will need to bring a packed lunch, drink and appropriate footwear/coat for walking.

The children have received a new home learning menu. The first piece is due in on Tuesday 30th April. The children will receive new spellings on Monday 29th April to learn for the following week. New Mathletics homework will be set next week for completion by the following week. As has happened in the Autumn and Spring Terms, a Mathletics Club will run on Monday lunchtime this half-term.

A reminder please - if your child has pierced ears, please supply them with tape to cover their ears during PE. The school is not able to supply it – thank you.

Have a good weekend

The Year 5 Teaching Team

Year 6

It was great to see the children come back from half-term refreshed and with a fantastic attitude. Already they have made a wonderful start on writing their very own Fairytale based around the achievement of Annie Edson Taylor. In addition to this, they have worked well on their revision for both Maths and Grammar in their more focused groups.

This morning saw the final of our Annual Year 5 and 6 Spelling Bee. Congratulations to all that took part; a special mention goes to James – our Year 6 winner – and Evie , the Year 5 winner!!

On Wednesday next week (1st May), the children will have the opportunity to complete their Grammar games. Further to the Parentmail prior to the Easter holidays, please ask your child if they need any additional materials to complete this e.g. cardboard and assist them in collecting these ready to bring in on Wednesday.

P.E days have changed slightly for this term. Children will be required to have outdoor, named, P.E kit in school on both Thursday and Friday.

Homework

We have decided not to set any specific pages for the children to complete from their homework books. However, we suggest that children continue to work through the remaining pages – particularly focussing on areas they find challenging.

We are more than happy to go through any of the questions with the children at a convenient time, although we have also put time aside in the coming weeks for children to sit with us one-on-one if needed, to go through any specific areas.

If you are aware that your child is struggling with a particular topic, please encourage them to let us know so that we can sit with them during this time.

Enjoy the weekend,

The Year 6 Team