

Curriculum Learning

Over the next half term your children will be working hard to achieve new learning targets. I hope they have an enjoyable time in the classroom and you enjoy seeing your child work with enthusiasm. I have high expectations for each child and would like to work in partnership with parents and carers. So, if you have any comments about your child's learning, please get in touch.

English

Phonics and Spelling

We are still working through the Year 2 Common Exception Word List and also looking at different rules in spelling, such as revisiting the use of apostrophes in contracted words e.g. don't, can't, didn't.

Reading

I aim to hear each child read in a guided group session once a week. We are working on reading with increased pace, expression and ability to answer questions that require the children to 'read between the lines'. Most of the children are developing their written responses to reading comprehension questions. We will continue visiting our school library once a week and we will be looking more closely at the layout of non-fiction texts, including the use of contents, index and glossary pages. Please look out for these in the books you share at home and discuss the purpose of using them. The children have a colour band book they should read independently, but it is important they also choose other story, poetry and non fiction books to share at home. Please listen to your child read daily. Reading for pleasure is so important so please encourage your child to read what interests them, as well as their school reading books. It could be comics, magazines, e-books or joke books!

Writing

We will continue improving our writing by ensuring sentences are punctuated appropriately and our handwriting is neat and correctly formed. We will be increasing our stamina in writing, writing increasingly longer and more complex texts as we develop our skills. In addition, children will explore using different conjunctions (joining words such as: and, but, or, because, if) and different sentence starters to make our writing more interesting. The children will be writing character descriptions, such as the witch from Hansel and Gretel and will be using exciting adjectives to describe the settings in these stories.

Grammar

There is a national test for Year 2 on their understanding and use of grammatical terminology, which will be administered in May.

Mathematics

This term we will continue with our daily mental maths sessions followed by our maths lessons where we will be focusing on:

- counting in steps of 2,3 and 5 from 0
- counting in 10s from any number forward and backward
- practice adding and subtracting 2 digit numbers by 2 digit numbers
- learn the times tables x2, x5, x10 and division facts eg. $5 \times 2 = 10$ so 10 divided by 5=2 or 10 divided by 2=5
- learn to recognise, find, name and write fractions eg. $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length, shape or set of objects
- measure using cm and metre length and height
- learn to tell and write the time to 5 minute intervals

Topic (DT/Art, Computing, Geography/History)

The topic focus for this half-term is a local study of Damerham and the history of our village and school. The children will be developing their knowledge about their surroundings, from the wider world, the United Kingdom and down to the local area. They will use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical features, such as forest, hill and river and key human features, such as town, village and shop. We will look at our journey to school, draw our own maps and sketches of our houses, making models of our own houses to put together our own model village. We will also develop our skills of compass, map and atlas reading, while looking at our local area and the wider area towards Salisbury. We hope to visit the city of Salisbury and compare Salisbury Cathedral with our local church in Damerham, as well as finding out about the history of Old Sarum and the link between that and the Cathedral.

Science

The children will continue their work from Forest School last term, looking at living things and their habitats, carrying out experiments within the classroom and Forest School area.

Religious Education

The children will be learning about the features and symbols in Judaism. We are learning to understand how celebrating Passover helps Jews show God they value their special relationship with Him. We will be learning about stories in the Bible, for example the story of Moses.

Music

This half term, Mrs. Cockcroft will be working with Year 2 to focus on duration in music. They will be learning to recognise and distinguish between a steady beat and rhythmical patterns. The class will be telling the story of 'The Awongalema Tree' by narration, playing instruments and movement.

PE

We will be developing our skills of agility, balance and coordination through a range of personal challenges and games. An important aspect of PE lessons will be supporting and encouraging others, being patient and taking turns.

SEAL/PSHE

We are looking more closely at how 'My body is important to me' this half term and will be considering things we can do to keep healthy, including diet and exercise. Each week, we will continue selecting a 'Special Person' and join in circle time to consider how that person is a special friend.

Other Information

Home Learning

Thank you so much for your encouragement of your children to complete home learning activities, particularly with spelling. It is really making a difference. Please continue to ask your child questions about the texts that they read, to develop their comprehension skills. Discuss how maths is used in everyday life with your child and continue recapping number facts and times tables so your child can recall them at speed.

Core Learning Values

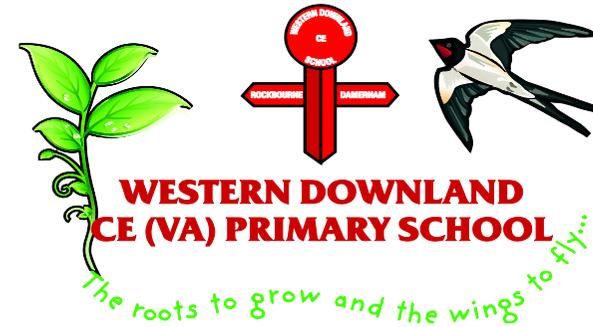
Please continue to encourage independence from your children; they should be dressing themselves in the mornings, organising their belongings in school, changing their reading books and settling into Early Bird activities by themselves. Allowing them to start doing these things independently will prepare them well for moving up to the juniors in September.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 1st February - Year 1 and 2 trip to Salisbury Cathedral. If you are able to help, please let me know!

Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th February - Parents Consultations

Thursday 16th February - Spring Music Concert in Martin



Year 2 Class

Spring Term 1

Mrs Clare Worsfold