West Twyford Primary School
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Head teacher: Miss R. Martin
Deputy Head teacher: Ms K. Collum
Assistant Head teacher: Miss R. Ahmed
School Business Manager: Miss M. Spring

Year 2 Sycamore
Class Teachers: Miss Abdulhadi
Teaching Assistant: Miss Mistry

21st January 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are very much looking forward to working with you to enable your child to achieve the best outcomes possible at school this year.

This is a letter to inform you of the topics that will be taught during this term. It provides information about the learning opportunities planned for your child and the skills, knowledge and concepts being developed.

Mathematics
Your child has already been learning Maths using the Singapore approach which enables children to develop number sense and reasoning skills. The Singapore method of teaching mathematics develops pupils' mathematical skills and confidence without having to resort to memorising procedures to pass tests - making mathematics more engaging and interesting.
This term your child will be exploring the following topics:
- Fractions
- Time
- Weight
- Shapes
- Volume
- Money

English
English lessons include the following elements:
- Reading (phonics decoding, word reading and comprehension)
- Writing is based on the genres being explored in the Literacy lessons. Children will write persuasive texts, fiction information texts, a non-fiction story, instruction text and a recount.
- Spelling, grammar, punctuation once a week.
- Handwriting three times a week.
- Speaking and Listening.
In Writing lessons there will be a particular focus on peer-assessment as well as continuing self-assessment after finishing a piece of writing. This means that the children will be developing a skill that will enable them to assess other pieces of writing and giving next steps. The children should be able to write neatly by the end of Year 2.

**Reading Books / Library Books**
Library books and graded readers are changed every week. This takes place on Thursdays and Fridays. Please ensure your child has a book bag at school every day. The children should read at home daily. Any lost books must be paid for. The cost is £5.

Children are expected to read every single day for 15 minutes. This should be signed by an adult in their reading record. If it has not been signed they will be expected to read in school.

**Science:** This term we will be studying Materials. Children will look at different materials and explore their properties and how they are useful.

**Project:** This term the children will explore the topic Journeys. They will be learning about different explorers from the past and the different transportations available today.

**Religious Education:** This term in RE the topic is Special Places.

**Art:** This term’s art will be drawing and painting linked to journeys.

**Music:** This term’s focus is Silence and Sounds and Graphic Scores in addition to learning a range of songs.

**Information and Communications Technology:** Children will be taught how to use Microsoft Word and continue learning about how to stay safe online.

**Physical Education:** Your child will have two PE lessons per week – one delivered by the sports coach and one by the class teacher.

PE kits should be in school every day i.e. brought in to school on a **Monday** and taken home on a **Friday**. Your child will need white or navy sports shorts, T-shirt, jogging bottoms and sweatshirt, as well as socks and trainers **all labelled** with their name in a named PE bag.

**Homework:** The homework set for your child is designed to support their learning in class. The school's homework policy states that your child should receive regular homework. Homework is set on Thursday to be returned the following Tuesday.

Regular homework is as follows:
- **Monday:** Spelling - this should be practised daily but does not need to be returned.
- **Monday and Friday Book change** – read for at least 15 minutes every day.
- **Thursday:** Literacy and Maths - this is to be returned on Tuesday.

There may be other additional pieces of homework from time to time.

Discussion about homework is equally useful in your home language if this is not English.

Please attend our sharing assembly each Friday afternoon at 2.45 p.m. – you are most welcome.

**Class Trips:** This term we will organising a visit to the Science Museum to support our learning in Science and Topic.
Notices:
You will find up-to-date information on events in the school office, the school website and the school app which is available to download. The newsletter is sent out by email every Friday afternoon (or a paper copy is sent to those without email). Letters with a parental permission slip will be sent out via the children’s book bags. Please check book bags daily.

Finally
The support of the family is immensely important where pupil progress is concerned. Here are some of the ways you can help your child make good progress at school:

- Ensure your child gets enough sleep
- Ensure reading happens for a short period every day. Be a reader yourself. Encourage your child to read quietly; read to your child; have your child read to you or a sibling; talk with enthusiasm to your children about what they are reading; visit and join the local library
- Ensure homework is done and returned on time. Discuss and problem solve together if there are issues with homework; encourage your child to relish the challenge of work that is difficult
- Talk to your child about their learning. Ask them about the learning dispositions they use at school and encourage them to use them. Our West Twyford learning dispositions are: curiosity, bravery, independence, co-operation, creativity, resilience, discipline and making links.
- Praise your child for the effort they put into their learning.

Please feel welcome to make an appointment with us, Ms Collum, the Deputy Head teacher, or Miss Martin, the Head teacher, if there is anything you need to discuss further.

We are all looking forward to an exciting and challenging year ahead.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Abdulhadi
Class Teacher

Miss Martin
Head teacher