

April 2024



Dear Parents,

In the first half of the summer term our topic is **Castles and Dragons**.

<b>Summer 1</b>	
English	Reading: to predict and make inferences on the basis of what is being said and done in a text; to ask questions about a text and to clarify what words mean. Grammar: suffixes, prefixes, past, present tense, similes, homophones, adverbs. Writing: develop positive attitude and stamina towards writing longer pieces. Begin to edit own work to make simple additions, revisions and corrections to their writing.
Maths	Money, Statistics, Fractions
Science	Plants – life cycle of plants, food chains
History	William the Conqueror and the introduction of castles: to understand what a nation is and describe significant people from the past and their relevance to a nation's history. To investigate why castles were built and changes in design.
Geography	The capital cities of the United Kingdom and their castles, looking at the importance of location and land features when building castles.
RE	What does it mean to be a Muslim?
PSHE	Be able to recognise babies, children and adults of different ages and put them into age order. Understand that human babies grow inside their mothers. Describe the main physical developments which take place in early childhood and changes in responsibilities and expectations. Understand a baby's basic needs and how it is dependent on parents/carers.
Music	Performing and creating simple rhythms using body percussion and percussion instruments.
DT	Sewing – practicing different stitches. Designing and making a castle.
Art	Castles inspired by Paul Klee: using 2D shapes to create a picture.
Computing	Collecting data and presenting it using software.
PE	Gymnastics and outdoor football skills.

### **Outdoor Learning**

We will continue to use our outdoor learning area as much as possible so please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately – as the weather improves this includes sun cream applied before school and sunhats.

### **Named items of clothing and water bottles**

With the warmer weather coming, please ensure that cardigans and jumpers are named, otherwise we have many discarded, unnamed cardigans to try to rehome!

All children should have a named water bottle in school. Please remind your child to bring their bottle home regularly to be washed thoroughly.

### **PE**

PE lessons continue on Tuesday and Thursday. Please continue to send your child into school in their PE kit on their PE day. The children do need a pair of shoes that are safe to run in (i.e. trainers). Please note that children should not be wearing necklaces or bracelets to school at all. Swimming will start **after** half term – weather permitting.

## **Homework**

We will continue to set homework on Seesaw. Thank you for supporting your child with the routine of homework. If you have lost your Seesaw password, please email your child's teacher/s.

## **Reading**

Please continue to read regularly with your child, giving them the opportunity to decode (sound out) new words themselves and discuss the book - summarising what has happened on the page they have read and talking about any new vocabulary (word meanings). In class, we are focusing on reading skills of retrieval (finding answers in the text); inference (using clues from the story to find things out); prediction (what might happen next) and sequencing (being able to retell the story, linking the actions or parts of the book together).

## **School trip**

We will be visiting Hedingham Castle on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May** by coach. A letter regarding this has been sent out separately.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Hewlett, Freya Redman and Ian Evans

**The Year 2 Team**