



# Year 2 Curriculum News – February 2017

## English

This term we will be practicing non-fiction and fiction writing. We will be exploring language and effect in poetry such as similes and metaphors. We will be writing poems about Benito based on the poem 'My Amazing Grandpa' and we will be reciting our poems to Benito! We will be exploring fantasy stories based on dragons. We will be writing recounts of our visit along the South Bank. This half term we are focusing on spelling, grammar and punctuation. We are learning how to use different suffixes, contractions, write sentences using co-ordination and subordination and using a range of punctuation correctly. We are using exclamation marks, question marks, speech marks, commas, commas in a list and possessive apostrophes. We will also be trying hard to improve our handwriting, using joined up writing and writing our letters with the correct size. Please encourage your child to join their writing at home.

## Phonics and Reading

Please make sure your child brings their book bag to school every day and **read with your child every day at home**. They will also have a sheet of spellings to practise every week which are in their yellow books and a spelling test on Friday.

## PE Kit

**Your child must bring a PE kit to school.** This can be kept in a bag on their peg. Please make sure items are all clearly labelled with your child's name.

GB table tennis player Darius Knight will be in school on Friday 10th March for our sponsored Sport for Schools event. All children must have a PE kit to participate.

## Attendance and Punctuality

It is very important that your child is in school on time every day or they miss valuable learning. The Register closes at 9:00am and lessons start promptly at 9:00am. Please make sure you collect your child promptly at 3:20pm.

## Maths

This term we will be learning how to find fractions of amounts e.g.  $\frac{1}{3}$  of 12 and  $\frac{2}{3}$  of 12. We will also be re-visiting doubling and halving. We will be using the facts to solve doubling and halving problems. The children will be learning how to create and interpret pictograms and bar graphs in our data handling unit. The children will also be learning about weight (g, kg) and capacity (ml, l). You can help your children by using weighing scales and measuring jugs at home, exploring the weight of different food items, ordering items from lightest to heaviest, asking children word problems involving weight and capacity. Please ensure that your child is learning their 2, 5, 10 and 3 times tables by heart. They should be able to recall doubling and halving facts up to  $12 + 12 = 24$  and half of 24 is 12. They should also be able to recall number bonds to 10 and 20. Please keep practising this at home.

## Theme

Our theme this half term is 'London Landmarks.'

In Geography the children will be learning about famous landmarks in London. We will use aerial photographs to recognise these landmarks and devising and drawing a simple map of the South Bank with a key. We will also be learning about simple compass directions.

Our Science topic is 'Move It. The children will build upon their understanding of materials by investigating how materials can be bent, squashed, twisted and stretched. The children will learn to ask their own questions and devise simple tests to answer them.

In Music, we will explore steady beat and rhythm patterns and create our own with body percussion, voices and instruments.

Our Art Lessons will focus on Collage. The children will be exploring artists including David Hockney, Bridget Riley and Kurt Schwitters. They will create their own London collages. In DT we will be designing and creating souvenirs of London Landmarks.

## Trips and Visits

We will be walking along South Bank to visit London's Landmarks. We will be taking our sketch books with us to draw the landmarks we see. We will also be visiting Railway Fields to observe the seasonal changes in Spring.