

# Satellites' Newsletter

Dear Parents

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas break and would like to welcome you and your child to our exciting new academic year.

Satellites will be working on the following areas of the curriculum this term:

## **Year 2**

**Literacy:** During the term we will continue to develop grammar and word work in line with the National Curriculum guidelines. We will be looking at stories, discussions and poetry that examine characters feelings, asking questions and giving responses to enable the children to write using common techniques in both fiction and non-fiction texts. We will be working with the exciting programme of Talk for Writing. This primarily builds upon the work carried out last year. Year 2 will continue to use phonics for decoding and encoding and work upon contractions, noun phrases and imperative verbs. The learning of key high frequency words will remain a fixed feature of weekly spellings.

## **Reading Year 2:**

The children will be heard to read regularly in school; both as individuals and in guided group reading sessions. Please continue to read at home daily with your child for at least ten minutes, remembering that talking with him/her about the text will help to develop good comprehension skills. A reading record will be sent home for comments. During the course of the year, your children will move onto the Accelerated Reader Syllabus and it is imperative that comprehension questioning takes place during and after reading so that a maximum success rate in testing is maintained.

## **Year 1**

**Literacy:** During the term we will be developing our understanding of the topic 'Once Upon a Time', examining key traditional tales starting with The Elves and the Shoemaker. We will build an understanding of discussion texts, identifying key features of non-fiction texts including looking at both sides of a discussion. The children will then develop their knowledge of poetry examining patterns and vocabulary. Year 1 will continue to use phonics for decoding and encoding and work upon recognition of applying alternative graphemes in their writing. The learning of key high frequency words will remain a fixed feature of weekly spellings.

**Reading Year 1:** The children will be heard to read regularly in school; both as individuals and in guided group reading sessions. Please continue to read at home daily with your child for at least ten minutes, remembering that talking with him/her about the text will help to develop good comprehension skills. A reading record for Year 1 will enable comments to be shared via school and home.

Also a reminder that e-books are available on the 'Bugclub' website this is an excellent alternative to encourage and promote regular reading.

**Maths:** Our whole school focus this term is learning the times tables. Year 1 need to be fluent in their 2, 5, and 10 times tables and year 2 children have the addition of their 3 times tables to learn. We will also be covering the age appropriate areas of Numbers, Calculation, Shape, Number Problems and Number Sentences in line with the New National Curriculum. Our ongoing commitment to the development of fluency skills across Maths will be a key feature of every lesson, so please talk to your children about what we do in school. It really helps them to try to apply their emerging skills in real life and we love to see what they do at home to support their overall learning.

#### **Maths Homework:**

**Year 1 and Year 2:** This year, Maths homework will take the form of practising key skills through 'Sumdog' and at least twenty minutes a week for Year 1 is expected with Year 2 developing resilience towards 30 minutes. A number of parents have asked for additional practical and written activities to support their children and we are always happy to help in this area. Just make an appointment to see Mrs Sharpe.

#### **Literacy Homework Year 1 and 2:**

Each week your child will be given phonics/spelling homework. Decodable words will initially be set out in a ladder format to aid decoding and blending skills. This will help your child to think about decoding when writing and spelling words independently. High frequency words will be sent home for spellings to learn as grammar work develops in class. Spelling tests will be held on a **Wednesday** and new spellings sent out by **Friday**. As a number of parents have asked for a list of these words we have attached the first 100 High Frequency Words for Year 1 and a further Next 200 High Frequency Words for Year 2. Many of the children are now experts at reading these words and their next step is to learn to spell them.

**P.E.** All children should have a named P.E. kit and trainers in school at all times containing kit for both indoors and outdoors. Trainers are needed daily at Playtime and Lunch Time. P.E is held on a Friday afternoon with an additional slot on a Wednesday afternoon when the hall is available.

Once again, thank you for your continued support.

Your sincerely

Mrs Sharpe  
Class teacher

Ms Vincent  
Intervention Support

I have received and read the Satellite Autumn newsletter  (please tick)

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_