

Y2 Newsletter

Spring 2016

Archibald Primary School
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Don't be Late – Be on Time – School starts at ¼ to 9.

Spring term 2016

A Happy New Year to everyone and welcome back to school for the Spring Term 2016.

The organisation of the Y2 classes will stay the same as the Autumn Term. Our teaching assistants are Miss Greenwood (Class 5) and Mrs Evans (Class 6). Some pupils will work with Mr Cutter during Literacy, Numeracy and phonics time. Miss M^cTeer will work with groups of pupils during Numeracy. She will lead interventions with pairs of pupils to ensure that all pupils reach their potential.

The doors are opened each morning at 8:45am and parents and carers are welcome to bring their children into class, help them change their reading book and complete their reading record.

The external doors are closed and the register is taken at 8:55 am and any children arriving after this time are late and should report to the school office.

At the end of the day the children will come out onto the KS2 playground at 3pm. We ask Parents and Carers to wait in the KS2 playground. Your child will then be let out of the door when we have seen you are there.

Learning in Y2

Literacy

Our first literacy work this term will focus on *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare. The children will be participating in a range of practical drama activities to support their understanding of the text and develop their writing skills.

The second half term will focus on non-chronological reports. Pupils will research nocturnal animals and will present their findings in the form of a non-fiction text.

Phonics

We will continue daily phonics teaching using the Read Write Inc Programme.

In Y2 we expect pupils to continue to apply their phonics knowledge and skills throughout the curriculum. Progress will continue to be monitored closely and groups adjusted accordingly.

Numeracy

In numeracy, pupils will be practicing their counting skills and calculation skills, focussing on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be practicing counting in steps of 2, 5 and 10. They will be learning and using number facts, working with 2D and 3D shapes and measuring capacity.

Y2 Learning Contexts



Land Ahoy!

During this context we will be learning about Middlesbrough's very own explorer Captain Cook. As well as finding out whether Pirates really did make people walk the plank!

We aim to base our learning within each context around a number of questions (Learning Challenges) which we try to find the answers to. We also encourage pupils to think of their own questions and work with others to find the answers.



Triangulation Meetings will take place in wc 29th February and 7th March. You will receive an appointment time for you and your child to come in to school to meet their teacher. The purpose of this meeting is to review progress and targets for the year.



Home - School Partnership

We value a strong partnership between home and school and believe that when this partnership is strong pupils make the most of what school can offer.

Class teachers are available informally at the start and end of each day if you have any concerns or quick questions. Alternatively you may make an appointment to meet together at a mutually convenient time.

Special Week

During the week commencing the 8th February 2016, we will be having a special week focusing on **STEM**.

Science
Technology
Engineering
Maths

During this week we will be visiting the Transporter Bridge and a Planetarium will be coming into school.



During this week, we will be learning about Space. We will be finding out about how to be an astronaut and will be exploring Tim Peake's mission to the International Space Station and exploring what life is like for him on board the space station.

KS1 Reading Challenge

Our reading challenge is continuing to be a great success. The reading challenge reward pupils who change their reading book on a regular basis.

Bronze Award - 25 books

Silver Award - 50 books

Gold Award - 100 books

At each level pupils are presented with a certificate in assembly and receive a prize.

All pupils are provided with a blue book bag to use for their reading book and homework.



→ Please ensure that **all items of clothing are named as uniforms, especially jumpers** can easily get mixed up. Each classroom has a jumper box and pupils are reminded to place their jumpers in the box if they remove them.

→ It is very important that we can get in touch with you in case of an emergency. Please ensure that we have your up to date contact details.

→ All packed lunch boxes should be named and placed on the trolley in the cloakroom at the start of the day. Y2 pupils are responsible for collecting their own lunch box at the start of lunchtime and replacing it on the trolley after they have eaten.

→ We use text messages to remind you of things and to share good news stories about your child and their learning. Please make sure that the school office has your up to date mobile number.

How can I help at home?

We ask that parents and carers support their child's learning in a number of ways:-

Talk to your child each day about what they have been doing at school, what they have learned and what they are looking forward to the next day.

Support your child with their homework tasks. Homework is usually sent home on a Friday and we ask that it is returned by the following Tuesday.

Homework tasks are planned for you and your child to complete together. If you have any questions about the homework tasks set please ask your child's class teacher or TA.

Listen to your child reading. Pupils should change their book each day if possible.



PE Kit

Pupils will need their school PE kit in school for PE with Mrs Williams on a Thursday afternoon.

In addition **Class 5** have PE on a **Monday** morning with Mr Cutter and **Class 6** have PE on a **Tuesday** morning with Mr Cutter.

Most pupils bring their kit to school in a bag and keep it in the box in the classroom so it is always available.

How can I help at home?

Please ensure that **all PE kit is named** as it easily gets muddled up when pupils get changed.

Encourage your child to be able to dress and undress themselves for PE. Plimsolls or trainers with Velcro are ideal for outdoor PE. Pupils will take indoor PE barefoot. No jewellery is to be worn for PE. Please remove earrings on PE day.