



Year 2 Newsletter

Summer 1—2023/2024



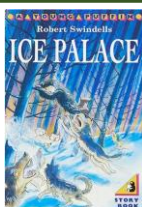
Notices and reminders

Welcome back to school. We hope you had a wonderful Easter holidays with your friends and family! As temperatures continue to rise throughout this half term, we ask that children come to school every day with a named water bottle filled with water (not sugary drinks, such as squash or juice), a wide-brimmed sun hat and an all-day SPF 50+ sun cream applied before the start of the day.

**Our PE days for this half term are as follows:
Mondays – foxes; Thursdays – rabbits.**

Reading

Following on from learning about the cold climate of Antarctica, we are excited to be reading Robert Swindells' *Ice Palace*, set in the freezing landscape of Norway. We follow the story of Ivan who sets out on a quest to rescue his brother from the evil clutches of Starjik. This is a tale of bravery and perseverance, with a little help along the way. We learn that things are not always as they seem, and everyone has the ability to make good choices in the end!



Writing

In writing, the children will learn to write a character description of the giant from Jack and the Beanstalk. They will then learn to write a persuasive leaflet about Pirate Island. The children will first learn the model text with actions and images, then innovate the text as a class before finally innovating themselves.



Key dates

Monday 15th April 2024 – start of summer term

Tuesday 16th April 2024 – Reception and year 3 school places offered

Tuesday 23rd April 2024 – PTA meeting

Wednesday 24th April 2024 – year 1 squirrels class parent lunch

Monday 6th May 2024 – May bank holiday

Tuesday 7th May 2024 – year 1 trip to Wellington Country Park

Wednesday 8th May 2024 – Reception hedgehogs class parent lunch

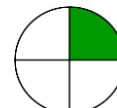
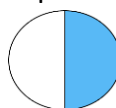
Wednesday 22nd May 2024 – Reception moles class parent lunch

Friday 24th May 2024 – end of summer 1 (3:10pm collection)

Maths

In maths, the children will begin by recapping part, part, wholes and equal and unequal groups. They will then learn how to recognise and find fractions, including halves, quarters and thirds.

Next, the children will learn to tell the time. They will recap o'clock and half past before moving on to telling the time to quarter past and quarter to the hour.



Science

In science, the children will be learning about plants. They will observe and describe how seeds and bulbs change over time as they grow into mature plants. They will find out and describe what plants need to grow and stay healthy. Throughout the term, they will investigate the best conditions to grow a seed through fair testing.



History

In history, the children will continue to build upon their understanding of chronology and past and present. They will study and consider how their own locality has changed since 1950s and think about how this impacts their own lives. This unit will allow them to begin to understand why people did things in a certain way in the past and why this has changed over time.



DT

In DT, the children will be designing and making a pouch. They will be learning the basic skills of sewing, including how to sew the running stitch and how to add decorations. They will also be evaluating the effectiveness of their pouch.



PE

In PE, the children will be learning to play cricket. This will begin with learning how to throw a ball underarm and how to strike a ball from a stationary position. They will then use these skills to begin to strike a moving ball. They will also make links to when you could use these cricket skills in other games such as rounders.



Computing

In the summer term, the children will be exploring basic programming and predicting outcome of codes. They will begin the term with simple 'unplugged' instructions to follow. That will progress into ordering instructions, then understanding the relationship between instructions and algorithms. The children will end the term by writing instructional codes and algorithms using a technological device.



PSHE

In PSHE, the children will be looking at what helps us to grow and stay healthy. They will look at what makes a healthy balanced diet and how it is important to eat a range of fresh fruit and vegetables. The children will also look at how exercise helps us to keep healthy and how what people need to keep their minds healthy too.



Homework

Please ensure that your child uses Times Table Rockstars to practise their number facts at least five times per week. Thank you for all of your support with helping your child to read at home. Please make sure that they read their decodable book at least four times a week. The decodable book and sharing book need to be brought back into school every Friday.



Suggested books for reading

Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman

The Twits by Roald Dahl

Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown

The Place for Me – Stories about the Windrush

Generation by Dame Floella Benjamin et al

The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson

The Hodgeheg by Dick King Smith