



PLAINS FARM ACADEMY

Year 2 Newsletter



Welcome Back

Welcome to year 2! We hope everybody has had a fantastic summer holiday. I'm really looking forward to getting to know the children this year and can't wait to get stuck into some fantastic topics! Alongside myself this year will be Miss Hodgson—who already knows the children very well. If you need to speak to either of us, please come and see us at the beginning or the end of the school day.

Mrs Owen



Literacy

Our topic 'Watch this space' will form the initial focus in our literacy lessons we are going to begin looking at persuasive writing. We are going to write to local businesses and invite them to our 'Dragon's Den' assembly. We are hoping local businesses will invest in our outdoor space to make it an exciting and engaging learning environment. We will also focus some of our literacy lessons on Harvest. We will be reading *The Enormous Turnip* and learn about narrative writing. They will continue to receive daily phonics lessons and spelling, punctuation, and grammar (SPaG) sessions will be taught daily. The children will continue to have daily guided reading sessions.

Mathematics



Maths lessons will focus the children on continuing to build their knowledge of number and place value within numbers to 100. They will learn new formal written methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide. The children will also look at measurement and create simple graphs in both maths and topic lessons. As well as these areas, the children will become more confident in number facts of the 2, 3, 5 and 10 multiplication tables. Please encourage your children to practise these tables at home.



History and Geography

In history and Geography lessons, the children will be learning about Harvest festivals around the world. We will name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans as well as naming and locating the surrounding seas of the United Kingdom. We will also spend some time looking at the biography of Richard Hawker who founded Harvest festivals.

Science



As scientists, we will be looking at everyday materials and their properties. The children will look at a variety of everyday materials and test their suitability for various challenges. They will also be challenged to invent a new product for our outdoor area using a range of materials following a given criteria.

PE

Our PE lessons are taught on a Tuesday morning and Wednesday afternoon. In our Tuesday lessons children will continue to develop and master basic movements and develop balance, agility and co-ordination through a range of exciting games and activities. On Wednesday afternoons we have a coach from Sunderland football club. He will be teaching us a range of football techniques and skills.



Computing and Music



Computing will focus on creating graphs and pictograms, adding labels and amending the charts as appropriate. We will also be using the internet to find basic information related to our topic and to find answers to questions.

This half term we will be looking at performing within our music lessons. The children will be learning a song along with instruments to perform in our assembly.



PSHCE and RE

As the children begin their year 2 journey, they will be thinking about setting goals for the year and how they can develop new and existing friendships. We will also have anti bullying week in November where the children will work together investigating the 'Power of good'.

In RE, we will be learning about Harvest festivals. As this isn't specific to one religion we will look briefly at a range of religions and how they celebrate harvest festivals.



Art and Design

The children will have the opportunity to develop a range of art and design skills this term. They will be responsible for designing displays throughout the learning environment. They will also have the opportunity to develop their skills in drawing using a range of materials creatively to design and make products and they will develop a range of techniques using colour, pattern, texture, line and shape. In design technology the children will design activities and games which they would like in our outdoor space. They will create their models following a design criteria and evaluate them. Their designs will be shown to local businesses during our 'Dragon's Den' assembly.

Additional information

- Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school on a Monday. They will return this home on a Friday. Their PE days are Tuesday and Wednesday. If your child wears earrings these should be covered or removed for PE.
- As we move into autumn, and the weather turns chillier, please ensure your child brings a coat with them to school each day.
- Homework will be given out on a Friday and must be returned on a Wednesday. This will consist of an English and Maths task linked to learning which has taken place that week. If you have any questions about homework please come and see me before Wednesday.
- Please ensure your child has their home reader with them each day. Their books will be changed every time they are returned and a member of staff in school will listen to them read. It would be helpful if you could write a short comment in their reading journal once you have listened to them read at home.