

**Y2 Aruvi Aru Curriculum Newsletter Summer 1 2015**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you and the children had a lovely Easter break. It is always good to see the children rested and ready to learn after the holidays. Thank you to all who came forward to be involved in our ‘Heroes’ topic last term; feedback from the children has been full of enthusiasm and it was lovely for them to get to know a few of you in a different light!

**Our topic**

Our topic this term is ‘Buckets and Spades’. We will learn about the geographical features of seaside places and make comparisons between a seaside town and our local area. We will also use simple compass directions and continue to identify on globes, maps and atlases the countries of the United Kingdom, the seven continents and five oceans in our ongoing geography work. In Science we will learn about animals and their habitats.

**English**

Our topic will provide lots of opportunities for writing and we will continue to work on writing for a purpose and to engage a reader. We will be concentrating on using carefully structured sentences that open in a variety of ways, contain ambitious vocabulary and give extra detail. Our phonics work will support our learning of different spelling rules and will help to boost our confidence in reading and wriing.

**Maths**

In Maths we will continue to work regularly on our Passport targets to secure basic facts and skills. To achieve each target, the children have to say or write their answers in 30 seconds so it’s really helpful to practise each target regularly at home. Please ask if your child needs an updated copy of his or her current Passport targets.

We will also continue to work on the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Problem solving and using Maths in real-life contexts will be an important part of our maths, when children are encouraged to apply their knowledge and skills and to persevere when they are stuck. It would be useful if you could work with your child to ensure that they are confident with the vocabulary associated with each operation (for example, +: and, plus, altogether, total). If you would like any resources to facilitate your child’s learning at home, please see Mrs Black.

**Trips and visitors**

We are hoping to arrange a trip to Filey to enhance our learning about the geography of seaside places and the habitats of some of the animals that live there.

**Clothes or equipment**

Please make sure your child has a swimming kit in school every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, as per the letter sent home towards the end of last term. If you have any questions about our forthcoming swimming lessons, please feel free to ask.

It is very helpful if you can provide a named water bottle for your child. These are refilled every morning and can go home at the weekend for washing.

**How you can help?**

Regular reading with your child is vital throughout Key Stage 1 and 2. This should be a short session of about ten minutes at least three times per week to enable your child to consider different types of books, their purpose, style and audience. Please date and sign your child’s reading record so that we know they have read their home reading books. These will continue to be changed on Wednesdays, and library books on Thursdays.

You will receive a separate homework leaflet with details about our big homework project this half term and ideas for other activities you can do together at home. Please remember that the most important homework you can do is reading together regularly, practising phonics and spellings and helping children to learn facts for their Maths Passport targets.

We are always interested in how children are getting on with their learning at home and want to work with you to keep your child safe, happy and learning well. Feel free to arrange to see us by catching us at the start or the end of the day or by asking at the office to make an appointment.

Thank you

The Year 2 Team

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| **Staff working in class this half term** | **PE Days** | **Reading book day** | **Spelling day** | **Library book day** |
| Sue Bennett  Susie Hopkins  Sue Strange  Robert Straw | Tuesdays and Wednesdays | Wednesday | Phonics – every day | Wednesday |