

Wednesday 20th April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Aruvi Aru class!

We hope that you and your child had an enjoyable Easter holiday and we would like to welcome you to the final term of Year 2. It's been great to see everybody back together in class and we are looking forward to a fun term of learning where the children will really aim to show their independence as the oldest children in Key Stage 1. We look forward to sharing some of this with you during our Sharing Assembly in the school hall from 9am on Thursday 28th April 2022.

Our general topic this term is the history led 'Heroes' (including learning about significant individuals and events from Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale to the Great Fire of London). Later this term we will also be learning in R.E. about how we can be heroes for our planet and in Science about how plants can grow and stay healthy. You will receive details soon of the half-term's homework. This will consist of a topic task, some maths activities, spelling and reading. Across the term, we will be reading a variety of class books together to inspire our work, including a selection of fables and parables and later in the term, The Lantern Fox by Garry Kilworth

In our writing, we will in particular be working on using our word and sentence skills in recounts, stories and poetry. In our maths, we will continue to work on using all four operations confidently, including with support from models and images, and to develop our mental maths skills through Maths Passport. This will include consolidating multiplication and division facts for 2 and building on our early knowledge for 5.

Alongside our daily writing and maths sessions, we will also prioritise our reading and spelling progress including through daily phonics sessions. We will also continue to learn tricky and common words and rules in our spelling and the children will write their spellings in their spelling books each week and then be tested on them a week later. This will normally take place on a Friday.

We suggest that Year 2 children **read to an adult four to five times every week for about ten minutes each time**. This might be a book from home, the local library, from the school reading scheme or from our school library. You will have received a copy of the Reading Comprehension bookmark during parents' evening (please let me know if not). You can use this to help ensure your child can explain their understanding of what they are reading. Children will read with staff in class every week and will normally change their reading scheme books with staff every week to bring home. We will also have a library session every week when children will choose books to bring home. All children should therefore have **book bags** (if you would like a Shire Oak one, these are available to buy from reception) for their

reading and spelling books which should be brought into school and taken home each day so that all children can regularly practise these skills.

Children should also bring a named water bottle to school every day, already filled with fresh water.

I will teach the class across all subjects throughout the week and year, with the exception of Wednesday afternoon when **Mrs Maver** will teach Year 2 whilst I am preparing lessons, making resources and assessing progress. Throughout the week the children will also benefit from the support and experience of **Miss Corner** and at different times also from **Mrs Reay, Miss Robson and Miss Turner**. Our student teacher, **Miss Hughes**, will also be increasingly teaching the class with my support throughout this term.

Where we can and where it will best help the children to learn, we will take advantage of our school grounds to learn outdoors and there will also be opportunities for trips locally and further afield later in the term. As you know, all of our regular P.E. lessons this term will be swimming at Armley and you have received a separate letter about this with full details. This begins on Wednesday 27th April.

Day	Please bring:
Monday	Book bag and water bottle.
Tuesday	Water bottle and book bag
Wednesday	Swimming bag, water bottle and book bag
Thursday	Swimming bag, water bottle and book bag
Friday	Swimming bag, book bag and water bottle.

If at any point you inform the school office that your child is isolating but they are well enough do some schoolwork, you should receive an email of suggested activities. Your child can also log in to their Shire Oak online account via the Google homepage on any connected device. To do this, they should use the email address and password we sent home last term. Please let me know if you need a new copy. Once they are logged in, they can access Google Classroom and their gmail account by clicking on the square of 9 dots in the top right hand corner of the screen.

Finally, please get in touch with me either directly in the playground or through the school office if you have any worries or concerns. It is very important that we work together to help your child to enjoy school, work hard, learn well and to show their very best behaviour throughout the school year.

Yours faithfully,

Ian Martin