

Friday 12th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Aruvi Aru class!

We hope that you and your child had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year holiday and we would like to welcome you to the middle term of Year 2. We've had a good first week together in class and we are looking forward to a fun term of learning.

Our general topic this term is the history, geography and science led '**Where do we live?**' (including learning about the history of Leeds, about the geography of Leeds and it's twin city of Durban and about habitats for humans and other animals). You will receive details soon of the half-term's homework which 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 the biographies of Nicola Adams and Nelson Mandela. In our writing, we will be working on using our word and sentence skills in traditional tales (inspired by Tinga Tinga tales), reports and poetry.

In maths we will be calculating with money, developing knowledge of multiplication and division and learning about measurement (including length, height, mass, capacity and temperature). Over the term we will be learning our times tables starting with the 2 times table and the 10 times table.

Alongside our daily writing and maths sessions, we will also be continuing with daily spelling and guided reading lessons. These lessons follow the fff success for all scheme. Children learn how to spell common exception words and also learn spelling rules. Later in the term children will be given a spelling book and weekly spelling will be sent home to practise.

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. Children will read with staff in class every week and will normally change their reading scheme books weekly 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.

I will teach the class across all subjects throughout the week and year, with the exception of Thursday morning when **Ms Virgin and Mrs Mitchell** will teach Y2 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 Ms Middleton.**

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. **Our P.E. days in school this term will be Tuesday and Friday** for which your child will need a plain white T-shirt, dark shorts/jogging bottoms/leggings and trainers. Please send these into school at the start of term and they can stay in school until the end of term. Everything should be clearly marked with your child's name and kept in a bag on your child's peg throughout the half-term. Please ensure for P.E. that long hair is tied back and earrings are removed before school.

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

Day	
Monday	
Tuesday	PE
Wednesday	
Thursday	Library
Friday	PE

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,
Helen Barley and the Year 2 team