



PUTTING THE FUN BACK
INTO LEARNING!

January 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back and Happy New Year. It has been so lovely to see so many children back at school and ready to learn.

Stationery

We are beginning to run low on our classroom stationery and we would like to request that you replenish your child's stationery as soon as possible. This includes; a pack of whiteboard pens, HB writing pencils and a pack of colouring pencils. It is important that your child is fully equipped for school to ensure that learning is not disrupted.

Parents Evening

Parents evening will be held on Monday 23rd January and Tuesday 24th January. Your child's homeroom teacher has sent out appointment slips. Please ensure they are completed and returned to school so that we can ensure you have time to discuss your child's progress. We are looking forward to meeting you all again.

Explorers Dress up Day



On Thursday 26th January, the children can come to school dressed as an explorer. This ties in with our History unit and is a chance for the children to have a fun afternoon going on an adventure to discover something hidden around school. We would love to see all the children participating.

English

This month, we will be introducing the story 'The Rainbow Fish' by Marcus Pfister. This links with our core competency '**care**' as we are learning what makes a good friend. The children will learn the story through actions and drama and later they will begin to retell the story through story maps and sequencing.



The Rainbow Fish is a lovely story with great morals. It is about a beautiful fish with sparkling silver scales. One day, a little blue fish asks if he can have one of his shimmering scales. But the rainbow fish refuses and swims away. The other fish hear what the rainbow fish had done and don't want to play with him. Therefore, the rainbow fish becomes very lonely with nobody to play with. He visits a wise octopus who suggests that he shares his shiny silver scales with the other fishes and then he may feel happy. At first he is not convinced but slowly the rainbow fish begins to share his scales and feels very happy. We are learning how important it is to share and always be kind to others.

Maths

In Maths, we will be recapping and extending our knowledge of Addition and Subtraction. During Term 1, the children became confident, learning strategies to support them with addition and subtraction. For example, using objects, a 100 square or using a number line to count on and back. Throughout Term 2, we will be challenging the children to use these strategies to solve addition and subtraction calculations with larger numbers.

Later, we will be introducing our Multiplication unit by beginning to learn doubles to 10. The children will be learning the 'Doubles Rap' which we will perform in our assembly each week to help them to gain confidence with recalling their doubles. There are lots of fun and engaging songs and online games to learn doubles if you would like to recap at home.



Science



During this month, we will be completing our Plants unit. The children will be looking at trees in detail by looking at their differences and similarities. We will learn all about Evergreen trees and Deciduous trees. Evergreen trees have leaves throughout the year whereas a Deciduous tree loses and grows its leaves throughout the seasons.

Later, we will be exploring different fruits and vegetables and discovering what part of the plant they come from. For example, a carrot is a root and celery is a stem. The children will have an opportunity to bring in fruits and vegetables to explore together in class.

Topic



In History, we will be introducing our Explorers unit. The children will be discussing what is an explorer? We will be thinking of all the different tools an explorer might need to set out on an adventure to discover something new. We will then begin to learn all about the famous explorer, Christopher Columbus. We will be learning all about his voyage on his ship, the Santa Maria. It would be great if you could ask your child what they have learned about Christopher Columbus and what he discovered.

Bug Club

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk> (user name and password required from homeroom teacher – Bug Club)

Please actively use this website to listen to your child read every day. Please encourage them to answer the questions by clicking on the bug within the text. Please contact your homeroom teacher if you need any further information or support.



Websites - Below are some useful websites which you can use at home. There are lots of games which you can play together with your child, to consolidate our Maths and English learning.

Phonics/ English

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk> (user name and password required from homeroom teacher – Bug Club)

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play/>

<http://www.abcya.com>

<http://www.busythings.co.uk>

Maths

(Doubles Rap) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8jOzhiACB68>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Flash.aspx?f=dartboarddoublesandhalves>

<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/mathgames/monkeydrive/addition/MDAddDoubles.htm>

Contact details for teachers:

Please find below the contact details for all teachers within Grade KG2.

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Many thanks for your continued support.

The KG2 team.