

Dear Parents and carers,

We are really excited for the coming half term, as it is full of seasonal fun and creativity and of course... more amazing learning!

This term has gone off with a bang; the children are now aware of our Year 2 routines and expectations. The children's attitudes and commitment to their learning is ever present, with link-making, a range of questions showing strong curiosity and engagement, along with the eagerness to work collaboratively and take risks to always improve. All these attributes illustrate what effective little learners we have in Year 2. Keep up the fantastic work!

Our topic this term (if you haven't already heard by way of bringing various model modes of transport in!) is 'Planes, Trains and Automobiles'. There is more detail about the skills that we will be learning on the other side of this handout. This half term, we will be continuing the half-termly homework activities, to complete throughout the half term, rather than weekly. We look forward to seeing what the children have produced in December via a celebration 'show-and-tell' afternoon between the two classes, allowing them to review, evaluate and celebrate all their efforts to their peers! We have designed the tasks to be collaborative, so you and your child can enjoy the time spent doing them together. Weekly spelling and maths facts will continue to be sent home each Friday and tested every Wednesday. We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents, that the test may be mixed up, so children must make sure they don't 'rote-learn' the answers, as this won't ensure they stay in their heads for ever!

And obviously, it is the term which culminates in glitter, sparkle and various sheep and donkey costumes... yes, that's right, the glorified nativity is upon us! The children will start rehearsing the songs for "Baubles: A Tree-mendous Nativity" during our singing assemblies and lines will be distributed by the end of week 3. We would be super grateful if you could practice your child's short lines at home so they feel confident when rehearsing. More information will be provided nearer the time, including details about costumes.

We are continuing to support the children to develop the characteristics of 'good learners.' As a school, we have established that these are: showing curiosity; being ready for learning; taking risks; collaborating; problem-solving; making links and enjoying learning. These skills are essential for the children not just in school but in later life. We would encourage you to discuss these with your children when talking about their learning. As the children gain in confidence, they will become more independent in their learning.

Yours sincerely, Miss Lee-Fox and Miss Aurelio

Key dates :

Ostrich Reading Picnic—Wednesday 7th November 2018

Flamingo Reading Picnic—Monday 19th November 2018

Children in Need (come in pyjamas) - Thursday 15th November

Reminders: Children need to remember to bring a water bottle, book bag, reading book, reading record and a hooded coat to school every day. They should be reading at home daily for at least 10 minutes and a comment needs to be written in their orange reading record. Spellings/ Maths facts will be tested Wednesdays and new spellings/Maths facts will be given out Fridays.