Welcome to Explorers Class!

We are a mixed age Year 1 & 2 class. Our daily learning includes English, Phonics, Maths, Reading and Foundation Subjects. Our TA is Mrs Bridewell who will work with us every afternoon. Our topic this term is ‘Our local environment’ and we will be focusing on Science, Geography, RE, Music, PSHE and P.E. On top of this there will be lots of speaking and listening, independent thinking and learning together all mixed up with a lot of fun! P.E. is on a Tuesday afternoon and a Wednesday morning.

I have included a topic web with an outline of all the things the children will be learning. As you can see there’s a lot to cover!

Reading books will be changed on a daily basis, please continue to hear your child read as often as possible. I will endeavour to hear every child read once a week and we will be doing weekly guided reading in class. We will also be learning about SPag (Spelling, Punctuation, grammar) as well as practicing spelling and handwriting.

**Phonics**

In year 1 children continue to learn phonics working through phase 3, 4 and 5. They are taught to recognise more ‘tricky words’ and the names of the letters as well as the sounds they make. Then we will begin introducing more spelling patters and tricky words, and increasing their vocabulary.

In Year 2 we concentrate on phase six. We continue to revisit phase five in order to ensure the children become confident and fluent spellers. Each week the children will learn to spell new words using mnemonics for tricky words and phonics blends for decodable words. They will also be learning phonic blends as well as recapping on those already taught in order to help them with their reading and become more accurate when spelling unfamiliar words. When spelling, your child needs to sound words out before writing them. Tricky words just need to be learnt as they cannot be sounded out.

Once they have settled in the children will bring home spellings to practice on a Friday, to be tested the following Friday and I will introduce times tables as the year progresses. Homework is set weekly. Your child will have a homework book in which to complete the activities set, this will usually be sent home on a Thursday/ Friday to be completed by the following Wednesday.

Please ensure your child has their reading folder and P.E. kit in school daily. Your child will need a water bottle every day. Please ensure they take it home daily to refill and label it. In Explorers Class we always like to recognise when children have tried hard with their work. Children continue to have reward stickers, house points and recognition from Mrs Huxham.

If you need to speak to me with any questions or concerns please pop in after school, I am happy to help. Thank you in advance for all your help and support this year.

Mrs Suzie House

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