Swallows Class
Summer Newsletter

WELCOME BACK!

I hope you have had a restful Easter break and a lovely time with your families. The summer term is always jam-packed with learning and fun, and this year is no different as we start our new topics and look towards exciting events such as sports day, running our extra-curricular “clubs” and a trip to Chessington World of Adventures, to name but a few!

All year 2 children will take part in national assessment tests in English and maths (known as SATs) during May. As mentioned during our spring parents’ consultations, we aim to keep these tests as low key and stress-free as possible for the children.

Please do keep in touch with events at school by referring to the Friday Flyer and school website in the first instance.

Thank you for your continued support and please do contact me if you have any concerns.

Ms. Kirsty Ruthven

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Support from home

- Please continue to read on a daily basis with your child and record comments in their red reading book. This is still so important! In Year 2, inference and comprehension skills are vital.
- Spellings. Spellings will be sent home on a Wednesday. Please support your child with learning their spellings as there will be a spelling test every Monday. The spellings homework will be linked more to our topic work and learning in phonics that week. The phonics homework in the reverse will now be a grammar-based task. In addition to this homework, you will see more reading comprehension activities.

- Maths. This is set on a Wednesday will often be based on Mathletics to revise concepts we have covered in class that week. If you would like to support your child with further challenge, we would suggest that you support them to learn their times tables (2s, 5s, and 10s in particular) as well as looking at how to answer 2-step worded problems.

Confirmed dates so far:
Tuesday 7th May - Reading Paper 1
Thursday 9th May - Reading paper 2
Friday 10th May - Spelling Punctuation and Grammar
Monday 20th May - Maths Paper 1, Arithmetic
Tuesday 21st May - Maths Paper 2, Reasoning
Thursday 23rd May - Catch up day for absentees
Friday 7th June - Aquarium at Chessington
TOPIC WORK

Our topic for this term is, ‘Islands and Oceans’. We will link lots of curriculum subjects into this topic and we will be primarily looking at contrasting island nations such as Australia and Hawaii. Our successful ‘Australia Day’ has already inspired the children and we look forward to ending our exciting topic with a big ‘Hawaii Day’ Luau party! We will be studying the fascinating human and physical geography of these places and we will even learn about some of their history, with a focus on the explorers who ‘discovered’ them. In Science, we will continue to deepen our knowledge of biology, including classifying the indigenous animals of Australia, animal adaptations, food chains and the eco-systems in various habitats, including the ocean. Looking at our foundation subjects, P.E., Art and Design& Technology lend themselves readily to the rich and diverse cultures we will be learning about! We will look at Aboriginal art, traditional Hawaiian music, make some of our own volcanoes to erupt and work towards our sports day in PE. We hope that the pupils will enjoy engaging with this vast and stimulating topic.

We are starting to enjoy more pleasant weather, so please ensure your child brings their water bottle to school every day!

ENGLISH

Children have produced some wonderful pieces of extended writing throughout the Spring Term and we will build on these with clear writing targets to focus on. We will work on;

- forming consistently neat handwriting
- correctly spelling of the KS1 high frequency words and the Years 1 and 2 common exception words.
- using punctuation consistently and effectively (capital letters, full stops, commas, exclamation marks and question marks)
- joining our ideas using conjunctions e.g. but, and, or.
- using suffixes eg. -ful, -ness
- continue to use exciting vocabulary to make our writing exciting to the reader.

Non-fiction: An information book about Australia and a report on how to make volcanoes.

Fiction: A study of Australian fiction tales such as Wombat Goes Walkabout and a look into island life through the eyes of Katie Morag.

MATHS

We hope to consolidate links between the four operations this term, including deepening our understanding of inverse calculations.

We will continue to investigate measures, shape and estimation, and we will begin to test the children on their times tables to ensure readiness for KS2! Revision of time, money, place value and fractions will begin in the weeks preceding SATS.

P.E.

Tuesday- indoor session

Wednesday- outdoor session

Please ensure you child is prepared with a full kit at school.

Pelham Primary School