



# Year 1 and 2 Newsletter Spring 1

Happy New Year! Welcome back to the start of the new term, I hope you've all had a great Christmas.

## **Topic**

This half term our topic is Journey through space (History focused topic). I have made a huge list of the things that the children would like to find out, which we will be working through over the coming weeks. Please do feel free to call in at the end of any day to have a look at the work we are doing.

As part of the topic we will be learning all about:

- The first man on the moon.
- NASA and its space programme.
- A timeline of events for space travel.
- The animals that have travelled into space.
- Footprints on the moon.
- Different designs of rockets.
- Phases of the moon.
- The planets on our solar system.

## **Maths**

Children will work on geometry this half term, which includes position, direction and measurement. They will also continue to build on their knowledge of addition, subtraction, division and multiplication.

## **English**

Children will continue with their phonics work in Read Write Inc (RWI), most children continue to make great progress with their phonics work and are enjoying the range of new books as they move through the levels.

As part of our work in topic, children will be finding information which will help them to create a newspaper report about the first man on the moon. They will also be writing poems, labels, lists and captions to support or research.

## **PE**

PE days remain the same - Tuesday morning and Friday afternoon. Please ensure your child has PE kit in school and that any earrings are removed on these days.

### **Homework**

**Spellings** - I will be changing the way children develop their spelling skills this half term. Children will no longer be tested weekly on spellings they have had to learn at home. After assessing the impact this had on the children's learning, I found it actually had very little as children were forgetting to apply what they had practiced and been tested on! I will therefore now be teaching spellings 3 times per week and children will then bring home a piece of spelling homework linked to the work we have done in class. This will be given every Friday for return the following Friday.

**Maths** - Towards the middle of this term, children will start to bring home 1 piece of maths homework per week - again on a Friday. This will be linked to work done in class and give your child the chance to show you what they have been learning.

### **Junk needed!**

Next week we will be making rockets out of junk material. As there is only so much I can collect myself could you please start to save things you think may be useful, for example kitchen/toilet roll tubes, plastic bottles, cereal boxes. If you could send these into class by next Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January I'd really appreciate it. If we're able to collect enough then the children will be able to make a model each, if not we'll make one in small groups.

### **Facebook thoughts**

The foundation stage have a very well used and successful Facebook page. I'm thinking of doing something similar but wanted to see what your views are on this. If I decide to go ahead with it, I will post examples of work, photographs of children, class reminders etc.

Once again, if you have anything you need to discuss with me, I'm usually in school from 8.20 and leave by 4.30. If it's a lengthy issue please make an appointment for after school, I can then dedicate the time needed without having to rush.

Mrs Wells

