

Year 1 and 2 – Spring Term News 2018



We hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas break and enjoyed lots of family time. Many thanks for all the lovely Christmas gifts, you were all very kind.

This term we want to work on children in year 1 and year 2 becoming more **independent** in the mornings. We are asking that children come into the classroom on their own and put their own things away. Class teachers are usually at the classroom doors if you need to pass on any messages. After school is usually the better time to chat as learning starts as soon as children come in at 8.45.

Learning this term and Topic



We are starting this term with the topic 'Inventions and Potions'. We will be learning about famous inventors and inventions and how they made a difference to our lives today. We are developing our discovery learning time to focus on 'Personal Projects' – These will allow children to choose and lead their own learning with the focus being on **Craftsmanship**. Look out for the display in the classroom to see what your child's Personal Project is.

Home toys

Last term we had children regularly bringing in toys from home. This caused a range of issues in the classrooms so we are asking children to **not bring in any items from home**, including pencil cases, this term. Please support this.

Expert of the week is replacing show and tell

We are starting 'Expert of the week' this term. This involves children being chosen each week to share their 'expert' knowledge on their chosen subject with the other children. Your child will be told the week before if they have been chosen for the following week. Please help them to prepare by chatting through what they are experts in. They could choose to be an expert in ballet, rugby, knitting, or any other hobby. They might choose to teach us all about Minecraft or tell us about their favourite television program. Look out for further information on our classroom window display.



Snack

Many thanks to all the parents who have been regularly donating healthy snacks for the children. We get the free fruit everyday and need other healthy snacks from parents each week. Snacks such as bread sticks, pitta bread, crackers or dried fruit would be very much appreciated.

Reading

We try to change reading books as much as possible but some days this is harder than others so please just say if your child has not had their book changed for a few days. Your children all know to put their books in the tray if they need changing but regular reminders help this. Please keep hearing your child read as much as possible, it makes such a big impact on their reading progress.

Homework for year 2s

We will continue to give year 2 children homework this term. This is weekly and is based on the learning from the week. We hope this keeps parents informed about what the children are learning each week. This is given out every Wednesday and needs to be handed back in

by the following Wednesday morning to give us time to stick new homework in. This remains optional this term.

Maths Workshop

We will be running a **Maths workshop** for parents on **Tuesday 23rd January**. This will be year group specific so please do some along even if you have come to one before.

PE Days

We now have PE three times a week. This is on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school and **all items are named!** Indoor and outdoor clothes are still required during the Spring term as we go outside as much as possible. Trainers are always best for outdoor PE.

Drop In

We will be re launching regular 'Drop in' times, which are a great opportunity for you as parents to see what your children are learning. These will be on either Tuesday morning or a Thursday at end of the day. Dates for this term are as follows

- Tuesday 30th January or Thursday 1st February
- Tuesday 27th February or Thursday 1st March
- Tuesday 27th March or Thursday 29th March

If you cannot make these days then please just talk to your class teachers to arrange another time to pop in.

Our door is always open

Please remember to come and talk to us about any issues or ask us any questions. For Kingfisher Class, after school on Tuesdays with Mrs Whiffin or Thursdays with Mrs Bacon are the best days and for Wren Class Tuesday is best for Mrs Wethered. Just come in for a chat after school. If there is something you would like more time to talk about we can always make a longer appointment.

We are looking forward to a great Spring term of fun-filled learning. If you can spare anytime to hear readers or stick in work we always appreciate the support.

Graffham Teaching Staff