

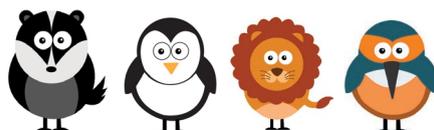
Key Stage 2 Newsletter Autumn Term 2019



Tannery Drift
First School

ROYSTON • HERTFORDSHIRE

www.tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our new school year, and to all our new children, families and staff. We had a very successful year last year and we are sure this year will be a fabulous one too!

This newsletter will give you a taste of what the children will be learning during the autumn term.

New class organisation

We now have four classes in KS2. In Year 3, Miss Johnson is teaching Penguin Class, supported by Miss Clark and Mrs Leggett; Mrs Davies and Mrs France are teaching Badger Class, supported by Mrs Patterson. In Year 4, Miss Gutteridge is teaching Kingfisher Class, supported by Mrs McQueen; and Miss Jones is teaching Lion Class, supported by Mrs Jacklin. Year 3 will have whole-class guitar teaching with Mr Hillier, and each class will spend one term having tennis coaching with Matt Fellingham. Badgers and Penguins will have this in the Autumn Term, and Lions and Kingfishers in the Spring Term. This term Year 3 will also have enrichment lessons with Mrs Simons, on a Thursday.

Topics and themes for this term

Our history topics this term are 'From Stone Age to Iron Age', in which we will be learning about prehistory and how early man developed, including what they ate, how they lived and their technological developments. We will then move on to learning about the Romans in Britain, starting with the invasions of c.43BC. Our science topics in year 3 are 'Rocks and Soils' and 'States of Matter'. In year 4, our topics are electricity and sound.

English

All the children in Key Stage 2 will be developing their reading through guided group work and whole class reading sessions. Through a variety of units using enriching and inspiring texts, the children will learn how to improve their writing. They will study and then write narrative, non-fiction and poetry texts, and will continue to learn how to edit their work. Please refer to the curriculum map for each class for more detail of your child's units.

Maths

The children will be developing their fluency in using number and place value in a range of different contexts. Information about the focus for each class is on the curriculum maps. Please continue to help your child by practising number bonds and times tables with them to improve these key skills. Throughout KS2, children will be expected to make rapid progress through the tables they know by combining school and home learning.

Art

Please bring in a large old T-shirt or shirt to wear to keep uniform/sports kit clean during Art activities.

Equipment

Please remember suitable clothing for the wet weather. Warm waterproof clothing is essential on colder days even if your child is normally driven to school. We encourage children to go outside in all weathers. Children must have indoor shoes to change into and trainers kept in school for the daily mile. Please help your child to choose a school bag that is appropriate to their needs.

Please check that your child brings a water bottle to school - only water is permitted in the bottles. Children are encouraged to bring a snack to eat at morning break, this should ideally be fruit, vegetables, crackers or plain biscuits. No sweets or high sugar/salt items (such as cakes, crisps, chocolate biscuits etc.) are allowed as we follow the 'Healthy Schools' initiative.

PE

All children in KS2 will have PE twice a week. They will need a full indoor and outdoor PE kit as per the uniform policy, in school every day, which includes a tracksuit and sports trainers. Children also need sports socks for use in PE. We suggest that these kits remain in school for the full half term and we will send them home at half term for washing.

Badger Class: Wednesday and Friday
Penguin Class: Wednesday and Friday
Lion Class: Monday and Thursday
Kingfisher Class: Monday and Thursday

Helpers/rota for classroom support

We are very grateful for any help we receive from parents in the classroom or on trips. Even a single session reading with individual children makes a great impact on the children's progress. If you are able to volunteer on a regular or occasional basis please speak to your child's class teacher.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 19th September: Year Group Meetings
Thursday 26th September: Year 4 children to Schoolympics - please see separate letter
Friday 11th October: Badger Class Assembly
Friday 18th October: Penguin Class Assembly
Friday 25th October: Lion Class Assembly

Discussions with staff

In Key Stage Two we are always available to meet with you about your child. We are happy to arrange appointments both before and after school. Please speak to your child's teacher as the first point of contact about any concerns you may have.

How to support your child at home

Half-termly curriculum maps detailing themes and learning outcomes, across all areas of the curriculum, can be found on the class pages of the school website.

The Maths and English sections of the website contain detailed information on year group objectives and methods.

Reading

Of course, reading helps to enrich your child's language and makes them a better writer. Reading together and experiencing the wonders of a book is one of the most valuable ways of helping your child learn. Children are encouraged to read for pleasure and have a wide selection of books to choose from. Please ensure an adult signs the Reading Record.

Home Learning

The children will be given spelling activities using Spelling Shed to complete at home each week. These will be personalized to your child.

We hope children are also enjoying '100 Things To Do Whilst At Tannery Drift'. Copies can be downloaded from the class pages on the school website.

The children will also be given times tables to practise on a regular basis.

Best wishes from
The Key Stage 2 Team



Enjoyment, achievement, respect