

Key Stage 2 Newsletter Spring Term 2020



Tannery Drift
First School

ROYSTON • HERTFORDSHIRE

www.tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have enjoyed the Christmas holidays and are ready for the exciting, new term ahead! We wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for all your ongoing support and Christmas wishes. This newsletter has lots of information about the exciting learning and activities taking place this spring term across Key Stage Two.

Topics and themes for this term

In year 3, the topic for this term is Italy. This will be a geography focused unit of learning with lots of cross curricular experiences. The science topic is Forces and Magnets and children will focus on their scientific investigative skills, allowing them to explore and answer questions that intrigue them!

The topic in year 4 is Rainforests, and like year 3, the children will be immersed in this topic across the whole curriculum, with a focus on geographical skills and knowledge. This links closely with their science unit of Living Things and their Habitats. The unit will be starting with a 'WOW' day where children will create their own 3D models of a rainforest.

English

It has been a joy to see the children immerse themselves in their reading. Throughout the spring term, the children will continue to have a weekly library session with Mrs Lobbezoo, our Librarian.

Year 3: Thursday afternoon

Year 4: Wednesday afternoon

They have the freedom to choose a book that interests them or ask an adult/their peers for recommendations. This may be a book they can read independently or a book to share with an adult.

In other areas of the English curriculum, the children will be writing a fiction, non-fiction and poetry text. Please refer to the curriculum maps for more detail of your child's English units of work and for more information on what each year group will be focusing on.

Maths

The children will be applying their place value and calculation skills taught over the autumn term to a range of different contexts and focusing on fluency, ensuring that they can recall these number facts with increasing speed. Information about the focus for each year group can be found on the curriculum map. Please continue to help your child by practising number bonds and times tables with them on a regular basis.

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 need a full indoor and outdoor PE kit as per the uniform policy, in school every day, which includes 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: Monday and Friday

Penguin Class: Monday and Friday

Lion Class: Wednesday and Thursday

Kingfisher Class: Wednesday 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.

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.

Curriculum detail

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.

Home Learning

Please continue to support your children's times tables learning with regular practice at home. It is crucial that all children are fluent by the end of year 4 ready for the upcoming national times tables test.

The children will be given spelling activities using Spelling Shed to complete at home each week. These will be personalised for 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.

Dates for your diary

24th January: Badger Class Assembly

31th January: Penguin Class Assembly

7th February: Lion Class Assembly

11th February: Parent Consultations

13th February: Parent Consultations

14th February: Kingfisher Class Assembly

5th March: World Book Day

w/b 30th March: Feeling Good Week

Best wishes from

The Key Stage 2 Team



Enjoyment, achievement, respect