

PETER CLASS
Spring 2 Curriculum Letter



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a relaxing half term break! It has been lovely to enjoy *some* sunshine this week – we look forward to even more during Spring! We would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the curriculum content your child will be studying this half term, as well as reviewing the day to day routines and procedures.

Our topic this half term is 'Rainbows and Rhythms' – we will be learning all about colours, light and sound, dances and music from around the world, as well as read some delightful stories, e.g. 'Handa's Surprise', 'The Mixed-Up Chameleon', 'Elmer' and 'Peace At Last' to name but a few!

RE

We are preparing and looking forward to Easter this half term and will be starting our whole school Lenten project next week. We will begin our Lenten journey by cooking pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and learning about Easter through our whole school assemblies and RE lessons. Our RE topics are:

- Gathering – we will learn how the parish family gathers together to celebrate the Eucharist.
- Growing – we learn that Lent is a time where we grow spiritually in preparation for the joy of Easter.



Communication, Language & Literacy

We will continue to concentrate on 2 different sounds a week, increasingly looking at digraphs and trigraphs (2 or 3 letters that make one sound e.g. 'ow' as in 'cow' or 'ai' in 'train'.) Thank you for your continued support in providing objects for our 'Sounds of the Week' table - the children find using this learning resource very enjoyable!

Your child will develop their blending and segmenting skills in order to read and write words. We appreciate your continued support with encouraging your child to use their sounds when reading and spelling unfamiliar words. For words that are not decodable, please remind your child to use visual cues, such as the pictures in the book, and to use their sight vocabulary, i.e. their knowledge of key words to support them.



Your child will continue to bring home two reading books: a reading scheme book and a book from our class book corner. The latter book is for you to read with and to your child and will be changed weekly (usually every Tuesday). Please continue to ensure your child brings their reading folder to school each day.

Please continue to use the keyword flashcards your child is given. Thank you for your continued support with this as your input is making a significant difference with your child's reading. Your child will now either be continuing to go over some of the keywords already given to them or writing sentences that contain a keyword. This will be explained in this week's homework book.

Our story sacks are getting good use! They are given to children on a rota basis. When your child receives a story sack, please spend time enjoying the contents with them and remember to return it with all the pieces. These are given on a Monday and should be returned the following Tuesday.

Mathematics

In maths we will continue to focus on counting on and back in steps of one, two, five and ten as well as learning more addition and subtraction strategies to aid problem solving. We will also solve problems including doubling, halving and sharing. You can help by solving practical problems such as sharing items at home into equal groups. Please also refer to the Reception Calculation Booklet you received in our autumn term review meeting for some more fun activity ideas.

In addition to this, your child has a maths target card with individual targets designed to help extend and improve their mathematical skills and confidence. Please support your child by working through their targets on a regular basis.

Understanding the World

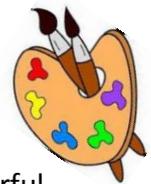
We are looking forward to learning about dances and music from around the world! We will also be having a go at some of these cultural dance moves so look forward to some performances of these at home! We will also be learning about light and dark and reading stories that may help with those that may be afraid of the dark.

In Computing, your child will continue to develop their mouse control and the ability to double-click to open folders and programs. They will continue to learn how to use Microsoft Word by typing sentences/phrases and formatting the sentences in terms of font style, size and colour.



Expressive Arts & Design

To support our learning of colour, our current role play area in class is a bright and vibrant florist – lots of customers have been filling in order forms, shopping lists and cheques! In a couple of weeks' time, we will change our role play area to a colourful patterned clothes shop – we will also have 'personal shoppers' giving their 'customers' fashion tips!



In Art, we are looking forward to making our own musical instruments - please look out for the letter in a few weeks asking for some recycled containers and materials to help us make these.

Physical Development (PE)

We will continue to have regular outdoor play sessions where the children can dress up, imagine and recreate roles and experiences, whether they wish to be builders, police officers or vets! They can also create music and rhythms with our great range of musical instruments or construct great monuments with large blocks! They can even develop their bike riding skills – outdoor learning has no bounds!

- Indoor PE (Fridays) → 'Dance'
 - We will have lots of fun this half-term as we will be creating a sequence of dance movements based on the book, 'Handa's Surprise'.
- Outdoor PE (Thursdays) → 'Outdoor Adventure'
 - Your child will be learning to play adventure games with a focus on how to work as part of a team. In our 'crossing the swamp' lesson, they will be working in teams using spots to get from one end of the Astroturf pitch to the other. The spots will be scattered randomly providing a challenge for the children's physical, thinking and negotiating skills.

Reminders

Please ensure that your child's PE kit and the rest of their uniform are clearly marked with their name. The full PE kit consists of a school tracksuit, black shorts, a T-shirt and plimsolls/trainers (preferably without laces) all kept together in a PE bag. As we can still expect cold weather, please provide your child with a track suit for outdoor PE.

Water bottles can be purchased from the school office at a cost of **£1.50**. Please remind your child to bring his/her water bottle each day to build a routine and to allow your child to regularly hydrate his/her brain ready for learning.

Homework will continue to be given on a Friday and collected the following Tuesday. Please ensure your child completes their homework to the best of their ability and feel free to record any feedback in your child's homework book about how they found the tasks – this is always welcome.

As you are already aware, we are excited about World Book Day next week! We look forward to seeing your child in their costume on Thursday 7th March!

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me, either at the end of the day or by appointment.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Sycamore

Peter Class Teacher