

Welcome back. We hope you've all had a good break ahead of this busy half term. We look forward to meeting with you at Parents' Evenings or review meetings, at the Christmas Fair and of course at our Year 2 Christmas Production in December.

Contacting Us If there is anything that you wish to discuss with us, please email us, or contact the office to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet up.

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We will continue to use ClassDojo for general messages and to share photos and work on Class Story. Please note that we may not see messages during teaching time, so anything urgent should be communicated through the office.

Key Dates:

4th and 7th November: Parents' Evening

22nd November - chocolate donations

W.B. 25th November (tbc) - Savoy Cinema Trip

29th November - bottle donations

29th November - Christmas Fair

6th December - Christmas Jumper Day and lunch

10th December - Christmas Production

18th/ 19th December (tbc) —Christmas Party

Growing Strong



Supporting your child at home:

Thank you for your ongoing support with your child's learning at home. Please read regularly with your child each week, focussing not only on fluency, but also comprehension skills. This half term we will introduce weekly spelling lists to be practised at home and checked weekly in school—more information will follow about this.

For Maths, please keep counting with your child - forwards and backwards in 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s. Another key skill to practise is the recall of number bonds within 20.

PSHE: We will be focusing on building and maintaining safer relationships, including online. We will discuss hurtful behaviour, resisting pressure, managing secrets and how to get help if needed.

English: This term, our writing will be linked to our learning about significant women who made a difference as nurses during wartime, leading to the children writing a non-chronological report about Florence Nightingale. As part of their writing journey the children will make and use notes, and explore factual sentence types and vocabulary. Most children will move away from the Little Wandle books and will have a weekly guided reading session, focussing on comprehension skills. Spelling practise will take place 4 times a week, building on the phonics-based learning to introduce Year 2 spelling rules. There will also be daily handwriting practise.

Maths: Our main focus this half term is addition and subtraction, using known facts (for example bonds within 20) to add and subtract numbers up to 100. We will use a range of manipulatives and visual models to support our learning and develop fluency. We will deepen our understanding through reasoning tasks that allow the children to explain their mathematical thinking. We will again have a weekly lesson on shape, furthering our understanding of properties of 2D and 3D shapes. MathsWhizz sessions will continue in school for targeted skills practise.

PE: Indoor PE will take place on a **Thursday**, with a focus on dance. Outdoor Games sessions with the coaches will be on **Mondays**. Please make sure your child has the correct kit on those dates, including warm clothes for outdoors, and that it is all clearly labelled.

RE: We will continue to explore the Islamic faith by looking at sacred places and what happens in a mosque. We will also read and discuss the Christmas Story.

Computing: Now that the children are more familiar with using MathsWhizz (which will continue in 3 short sessions each week), we will pick up the Computing curriculum again, with a focus on Coding using Purple Mash. We will also discuss online safety and how to be a responsible user of technology.

Creative Curriculum and Science: This half term we begin with a historical focus, studying and comparing the work and lives of Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell to understand their impact on hygienic practices within healthcare. This will lead on to our science-based learning, where we will explore the different ways that humans maintain a healthy lifestyle. We will discuss the importance of good hygiene in keeping our bodies healthy, including learning how germs spread. We will learn why exercise is an important factor in staying healthy, and why a healthy balance in the variety of foods we eat is important. This will then link to our artwork - looking through the lens - studying and creating food-based photography, considering arrangements and colour in our work.