

Welcome back. We hope you've all had a wonderful Christmas break and that the children are fully rested ready for a very busy half term.

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:

w.b. 3rd February—Big Science Week

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 continue with weekly spelling lists to be practised at home and checked weekly in school—more information will follow about this.

For Maths, please encourage your children to complete the tasks set on Mathletics. Also, we will be learning to tell the time up to 5 minute intervals, so any practise that they have at home with analogue and digital clocks will support this.

Creative Curriculum: Our topic this half term has a geography focus, comparing human and physical features of Manchester and New York. We will find key features using maps as well as videos and texts. We will look in particular at transport and buildings in both cities, then show our learning in an information leaflet. Our Design and Technology project is structures this half term, so as Urban Explorers we will investigate different bridges, evaluate joining techniques, then create our own bridge,

Urban Explorers



Science: With the Big Science Week towards the end of the half term, we will have lots of practical science exploring properties of materials.

Comparing absorbency and reflectivity amongst other properties, the children will develop their skills in recording findings in tables and charts. Our work will then be displayed during the Big Science Week exhibition.

Maths: We will continue this half term with addition and subtraction, including applying skills in problem solving. We will then count, compare and calculate with money. With Mrs Evans, the children will develop their understanding of time. We will use manipulative and reasoning tasks that allow the children to explain their mathematical thinking. MathsWhizz sessions will continue in school for targeted skills practise.

English: This term, our writing will be linked to our comparison of New York and Manchester, and will culminate in an information leaflet about each city. We will use drama and reading to support our writing and the grammar focus will be expanding sentences with adjectives and conjunctions. Our weekly guided reading session will continue to focus on comprehension skills. Spelling practise will take place 4 times a week, building confidence with Year 2 spelling rules. There will also be daily handwriting practise.

PSHE: We will be focusing on managing peer pressure and recognising hurtful behaviour. We will then explore working cooperatively and sharing opinions respectfully.

PE: Indoor PE will take place on a Thursday, with a focus on gymnastics. 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.

Computing: We will develop our search skills related to our DT project, as well as using Purple Mash to compose music linked to our Creative Curriculum topic.

RE: This half term we will be looking at sacred books including the Quran and Torah. We will learn that sacred texts contain stories which are special to many people and should be treated with respect, as well as retelling stories from them.