28th April 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new term. We hope you all had a lovely Easter break! We would like to take this opportunity to inform you of what we will be doing this term in Year 2.

**All Creatures Great and Small**
Our topic for the first half term will be ‘All Creatures Great and Small’. We are learning about British animals and their habitats. We will be writing non-chronological reports about them. We will also be making paper mache butterflies. We will be assessing children in reading, writing and maths for their end of Key Stage 1 assessment. As part of this, the children will be undertaking SATs tests. You will be informed of the outcome of these in your child’s end of year report.

**The Seaside**
For the second half of the term our topic will be ‘The Seaside’. We will be comparing Southend-on Sea with Newlands Spring. We will also be writing extended stories with a seaside setting. Children will be making moving picture seaside books. We will also be visiting Southend-on Sea.

**Pen Licences**
This term, we will continue to give ‘pen licences’. These are for children who consistently use neat, joined up writing. They will be able to start writing in pen and the pens will be provided. Please encourage your child to concentrate on their handwriting!

**Maths**
Please continue to support your child with the times table challenge.
Bronze award - in order
Silver award - mixed up
Gold award - division questions
Platinum award - problem solving

**General Reminders:**
- Reading books – It is your child’s responsibility to ensure that they change their book regularly. Adults will continue to assess reading bands. Please try to hear your child read at least five times a week.
- We will be having indoor PE lessons on Tuesdays and outdoor lessons on Wednesdays. The children need to bring trainers in for the outdoor session.
- Please continue to encourage your child to support their mathematical development by using Mathletics regularly.
School Rules and Equipment

Water Bottles
Every child should bring a named water bottle to school every day. There are water stations where children can refill their bottles if necessary.

Summer precautions
Ensure your child has a sun hat and sun cream as appropriate.

Uniform
Most children look very smart but a few are not wearing correct uniform. **Trainers are not allowed**; children should wear smart, flat school shoes. Girls’ socks should be plain white and boys’ socks should be plain black or grey. Girls’ summer dresses/divided skirt dresses should be knee length. **EVERY ITEM OF SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOULD BE NAMED**

Hairstyles
Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school. The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum and children should not have decorative patterns cut into their hair or have hair coloured or dyed. Girls’ hair accessories should be black or blue.

PE Kit
Summer PE kit consists of a white t-shirt, black shorts and trainers. Some children only have plimsolls which are not suitable for outdoors. For chilly days you may still want to include a black tracksuit. **EVERY ITEM OF PE KIT SHOULD BE NAMED**

Bags
School bags should be a book bag (Reception and KS1) or a drawstring type rucksack (KS2) as space is very limited in our cloakrooms.

Thank you for helping with these issues to make things run as smoothly as possible.

We would like to thank you for your continued support. You are always welcome to pop in after school if you ever have any queries.

Many thanks,

Mrs Dubiel
Miss Maslen