

Welcome To Summer in Year 2

Welcome to the summer term in Year Two. We hope you had a lovely Easter break. Our focus for this half term is 'How does your garden grow?' and is linked to our science topic. We have exciting work planned—including some experiments—which will involve the children planting seeds and bulbs and learning about the conditions needed for healthy plant growth. In the second half term, the children will be finding out about how the Tiptree Jam Factory has had an impact locally and globally. We will explore the life of Mr Wilkins and learn who he was and how he was significant.

Just a reminder that we are available and happy to talk to you if you have a question or query no matter how small. You can also email us at mrs.mccarthy@greattotham.essex.sch.uk or mrs.browne@greattotham.essex.sch.uk.

As always there are a number of ways you can help support your child. The most important is hearing them read regularly. Even confident readers benefit from reading out loud to an adult and answering a range of questions about what they have read to check their understanding. Sharing a book with your child and reading to them means they know what fluent reading sounds like. Keep practising spelling the common exception words we sent home in the autumn term. You can play various games

shown to the children over the spring term e.g. noughts and crosses or quick write. There are also the 'hit the button' type games to help with quick recall of times tables, halves and doubles. Continuing to practise the 2, 5 and 10 times tables and related division facts still remains a key focus for the summer term. All the children have worked hard on this so far and we look forward to handing out more Pascal certificates.



Homework

This will continue to be reading and times tables practice. Your child should still be reading at home at least three times a week.

The children are also expected to practise their times tables and number facts twice a week as part of their homework.

Please make sure your child brings their reading books in to school on a Monday so that they can be checked—and daily so that the children can change their books and read with an adult when necessary.

PE day—Monday and Wednesday

Please send your child into school wearing their PE kit on Monday and Wednesday. The first three weeks of the term will be PE as usual.



Our first swimming session is Wednesday 3rd May.

Just a reminder that the children will be changing for swimming, so please make sure all of their uniform is named.

Along with swimming, this term the children will be developing their striking and fielding skills. They will begin striking a ball with their hand then progress to striking a ball with a bat. The children will apply these skills within a game and work as a team.

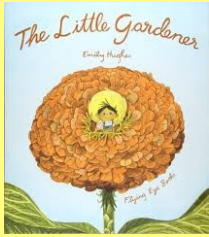
In the second half term the children will be using a bat and ball with increasing control. They will practise hitting the ball with accuracy towards a target. We will also be completing orienteering and problem solving activities outside.

Dates for your diary

Not Only the Sponsored Walk! - weekend of **13th May**
KS1 sports day—**22nd May**
Outdoor learning—**23rd May**

R.E.

The children will explore how people live their lives as a Christian and will share the story of the Good Samaritan. They will consider how they can care for others and how they can make the world a better place. They will compare how people practise their own faith, including Islam and Judaism, in their daily lives.



English

We will be sharing the book 'The Little Gardener' during the 1st half term. The children will then learn how to write an informal letter and recap how to write a diary entry based on this story. A key focus here will be to continue to build on and apply the skills already taught such as including conjunctions to extend ideas and include expanded noun phrases to add detail to their writing.

Other writing opportunities will be to write a recount linked to our science topic about plants, once again focusing on length of sentences and how to make their writing interesting for the reader.

In the second half term we will be sharing various poems with the focus on identifying rhyming couplets. The children will read a wide range of poems and discuss poetic language and imagery. They will also learn some poems off by heart. The children will also be looking at information texts linked to our science topic. Using a variety of conjunctions, punctuating sentences consistently throughout and checking spelling will be some of the key skills that they will need to show when producing their own information page.

History & Geography

The history focus will be finding out about Tiptree Jam factory and learning about the life of Mr Wilkins. The children will link this to their geography where they will be making maps of our school site and reading maps of the local area, as well as looking at human and physical features on both.



Design and Technology

The children will be making their own fruit salad. They will also be learning about where their food comes from and about maintaining a healthy and varied diet. We look forward to seeing them make some healthy fruit salads.

Computing

This term the children will investigate how they can write algorithms and debug simple programs using Big Trax. They will also have opportunities to further develop their typing skills using Microsoft Word. They will continue to improve precision and gain confidence when applying these skills.



Maths

Over the summer term the children will extend their understanding of number and place value using mental and written methods, applying these in different contexts. They will build on their knowledge of measure, revisiting mass, capacity and temperature. We will revisit kilograms, grams, litres, millilitres, degrees and Celsius and read different scales. They will identify and describe the properties 2D and 3D shape and look at line symmetry in a vertical line. The children will learn how to recognise, find and name fractions, including thirds, and 1/4, 2/4 and 3/4 of numbers and shapes.



Along with identifying and writing fractions of shape, quantity and length. They will also revisit money and time. We will be including problems that involve reasoning for the children to solve. This will help them practise careful reading, so they can carry out the various steps needed.

Art



Linked to our science topic about plants and healthy eating the children will be sketching fruit and plants. They will be taught to think carefully about line, shape, form and space. They will study the artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo, who is known for creating portrait heads made of objects such as fruits and vegetables, and recreate his artwork. They will also be exploring a range of art media including watercolours to create their final picture of a plant.

Life skills

During the 1st half term the children will spend time learning about respect and responsibilities within the community, local environment and groups they belong to.

The second half term will link to our science topic as the children will be exploring healthy lifestyles and making informed choices that improve their physical and emotional health.

Science

During this term the children will be learning about a variety of plants. We will examine different seeds and bulbs. The children will identify and investigate conditions for healthy plant growth.

In the second half term we will be learning about the importance of exercise, a healthy diet and maintaining good hygiene. The children will find out about and describe the basic needs of animals including humans.