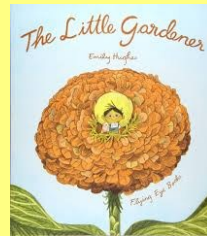


Welcome To Summer in Year 2

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 miss.paul@greattotham.essex.sch.uk or miss.goodsell@greattotham.essex.sch.uk.



Writing



To help inspire our writing we will be sharing books with a botanical theme during the 1st half term. The children will write in a range of genres based on these stories. A key focus here will be to continue to build on and apply the skills already taught such as including a variety of conjunctions to extend ideas and include expanded noun phrases to add detail to their writing. Other writing opportunities will be to write instructions based on our experiments and a recount linked to our science topic about plants.

In the second half term we will share the book 'An Alien in the Jam Factory' which will lead to us writing poems, explanation texts, letters and even a job advert! The children will be encouraged to make their writing interesting for the reader. 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.

English

Reading and Spelling

The children will continue with 5 spelling sessions a week. As before, the children will be encouraged to 'think' about spelling and apply the taught spelling rules. A way that you could support your child at home is to play various games e.g. noughts and crosses or quick write. The children will be familiar with these games so let them show you.

The children will continue to read three times per week at school to develop fluency. One of the most important ways to support your child is hearing them read regularly. Even confident readers benefit from reading out loud to an adult and answering a range of questions. Sharing a book with your child and reading to them means they know what fluent reading sounds like. The books they choose on a Monday will have been chosen by them to read to you.

Maths

We will develop the children's knowledge of measure as we revisit mass, capacity and temperature. We will revise kilograms, grams, litres, millilitres, degrees and Celsius and read different scales. The children will learn how to recognise, find and name fractions, including thirds, and quarters of numbers and shapes.

Along with identifying and writing fractions of shape, quantity and length we also revisit 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. As always there are a number of ways you can help support your child for example by playing 'hit the button' to help with quick recall of 2, 5 and 10 times tables, halves and doubles.



Key dates

Outdoor learning—**25th April**
Swimming—**2nd May**
Sponsored walk—**10th May**
KS1 Sports day—**19th May**
Insert day—**2nd June**
School fete—**11th July**
Reports out— **15th July**
Last day of term— **22nd July**

R.E.

The children will discuss why people have different views about the idea of God. They will explore how a person's behaviour may be connected to their view of God and why some people do not believe in God. The children will compare beliefs of Christianity and Islam.

PE days — Monday and Tuesday until swimming begins— Tuesday and Friday thereafter.

Please send your child into school wearing their PE kit on Monday and Tuesday for the first week of term. **Our first swimming session is Friday 2nd May. PE kits should be worn to school on Tuesday and Fridays thereafter.**

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

Along with swimming, the children will be developing 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 and practise hitting the ball with accuracy towards a target.



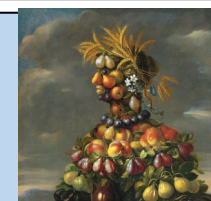
History & Geography

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 of both.



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 be encouraged to think about where money comes from and how it can be used. They will discuss the idea of spending or saving their money. They will begin to understand why it is important to keep their money safe.

In the second half term we will revisit the PANTS rule and your child will be sharing a Lifeskills book called 'Your mummy ate my football'. This book explains how babies are made and how they need to be cared for once they are born. The book will be sent home for you to share with your child first.

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.

Design and Technology

The children will be designing their own 'wheelbarrow'. They will then add wheels and axles to their product, choosing the materials they believe to be the most suitable. The children will also be making fruit salad.

They will be learning about where their food comes from and about maintaining a healthy and varied diet.

Science

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.

