

Dear Parent/Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back! We have been very pleased at how quickly the children have settled back into Year Two routines after the Christmas break.

In English this week, we have read a series of traditional tales and used them to help us continue our sentence level work. It is so important that we can read a paragraph of writing out loud and work out where one sentence ends and the next begins to help us to use capital letters and full stops accurately in our own writing.

Our spelling focus has been learning how to spell some of our tricky Year 2 Common Exception Words. We have looked at which part of each word makes it tricky to spell and noticed that many of the words come in pairs/families that help us.

every, everybody, everyone
some, come
move, prove, improve

In Maths, we have been learning three speedy strategies that can be used when we have to add three one digit numbers together. These are the strategies:

- a. $6 + 4 + 3 =$
Find the **number bonds to 10** then add the final number.
- b. $7 + 5 + 7 =$
Find and add the **doubles** then add the final number.
- c. $3 + 9 + 4 =$
Add the **two largest numbers** first then add the final number.

Our focus in Computing this half term is coding. Coding, in the simplest terms, is telling the computer what to do by giving it clear instructions (input) so that it can complete actions (output). The children will learn how to give objects instructional directions as well as embedding “when” functions (e.g. when clicked, move right) and collision detection (e.g. when the knight collides with the dragon, the dragon disappears).

In CCL, we have learnt how to use the index at the back of an atlas to find a country and work out which continent it is in. We keep on reminding ourselves of the names of the 7 continents and 5 oceans as these are important geography facts for us to know by the end of Year 2!

In indoor PE lessons this half term, we will focus on gymnastics. The children will use a variety of apparatus and build on the skills that they learnt in Year One. Even though it is cold, we will continue to do outdoor PE so please ensure that your child has jogging bottoms, a warm jumper or hooded top and trainers in school at all times. It would help if girls had a pair of socks to wear for when they have removed their tights. Some children are still struggling to tie their own laces. It is essential that they can do this independently from now on.

Currently parents and carers are able to collect pupils at the end of the school day in the playground – in order for this to continue, but to reduce the numbers of people on site, please can we request that once children have been collected that you leave the school premises as quickly as possible. We would very much appreciate your support with this. Thank you.

Many thanks for your support,
Mrs Haigh, Miss Heneghan and the Year 2 Team