

This half term we will become historians, asking important questions about people from the past. Children will consider why people visited the circus, and how and why the circus has changed over time. We will use a range of sources like real historians, such as adverts, posters, photographs and artefacts. We will use simple historical language to order events, and create a sense of the past and chronology.

As scientists, we will begin to investigate different materials. Through discussion and exploration children will sort materials and objects based on their properties. Children will begin to choose materials based on their simple properties, and test for their suitability through a series of investigations.

As artists, we will begin to explore different techniques related to paint. We will be looking at painting portraits - and will even paint our own faces in the style of a clown!

If you have any skills, or knowledge, you want to share with Class Two, let me or Mrs McMath know!

Music and Computing

Class Two will be taught music on a Friday afternoon. It will focus on key musical skills and playing non-tuned instruments.

In computing, 'We are Celebrating!' We will use technology to create our own e-cards for Christmas.

Important Information

Spellings go out on a Monday to be tested on a Friday. Please practise these spellings with your children at home, and encourage them to use them in their writing. Building on the spellings in class one, individual high frequency words will be sent out, and will be practised before reading with an adult once a week.

A homework grid for our topic is attached. Completed homework can be placed in the homework drawer outside the classroom. Books shall be marked by Thursday, and returned on Friday.

Instead of a show and tell this half term, we would love it if children could do a 'Read and Tell'. Children will be given a set week to bring in a book that they have read at home (or magazine or comic), share with the class and have a discussion about.

PE

Please make sure your child has suitable kit for indoor and outdoor sessions. PE will be taught on a Wednesday and a Friday morning.

Please make sure all children have a pair of trainers in school every day for the Daily Mile. If we are unable to go outside for the mile, we will either do yoga or gonoodle (a guided dance) inside the classroom.

As mathematicians

We are extending our place value knowledge this half term, and looking at representing numbers in lots of different ways. There will be lots of opportunity for problem solving and reasoning - look out for the padlocks and keys in our maths challenge area. We will also become shape detectives, looking at the different shapes in our environment and their properties. We will describe the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. Through discussion and investigation we will compare different shapes, and ask, how are they different?

Children have a log in for mymaths.co.uk where homework will be set weekly for year 2s, and fortnightly for year 1s. It's a great opportunity for adults at home to see what we are learning and how we are learning it. If you have any questions or issues with mymaths, please come and see me so I can answer or resolve the issues.

Welcome from Miss Grobler and Mrs McMath

Hello, and welcome back to Class Two! I can't believe we're in our second half term! It will be another busy one, with lots of exciting things planned! Our topic this half term is 'Roll up! Roll up! It's the Circus!' We'll be discovering the history of the circus, using different sources and thinking of how and why the circus has changed. We have a circus role play area, and a circus small world, complete with tight rope walking puppets! Later in the half term, our focus will turn to celebrations, with a big focus on Christmas and the nativity. This half term we are lucky to have a student teacher, Miss Rogers with us. She will be teaching maths, PSHE, music and other subjects too.

If you have any concerns or queries about your child's learning, or their life at school, please contact me at the start or end of a school day. If these times are not convenient, please arrange a meeting at your convenience, and I will be happy to oblige.

Thank you,
Miss Grobler

As writers

We will be inspired by the stories of the circus, including Quentin Blake's *Clown*. We will write different genres this half term including poetry and diary entries. As the children loved the Bear Hunt story so much, we are beginning our Circus topic by writing simple non-chronological reports about animals from the circus, including bears and elephants. Children will consolidate their use of finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. All children will be challenged to sound out words carefully, and some will be encouraged to use the alternative sounds.

As readers

We will read once a week to an adult, and have daily Read Write Inc. sessions. All children will take part in Guided Reading, providing children a chance to further explore a text, and read to an adult and their peers.

Spellings will follow year 1 phonic sounds and year 2 spelling rules.