

## Class Two Newsletter

Term 5 2013

Dear Parents

Welcome back to what is traditionally known as the 'Summer Term'; let's hope the weather lives up to its name! We trust you all had a happy Easter and everyone is feeling rested and refreshed.

### Topic

A topic web is attached to give you an idea of some of the areas we will be covering this term. Our topic is Dinosaurs and as part of this we will be busy researching, naming and measuring dinosaurs. Children are welcome to bring and share any resources or information they have at home.

### Trips and Visits

We have re-arranged the visit to **Dry Arch** for next **Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April**. Hopefully the weather will be kinder to us this time! We will assume all returned permission slips are valid for this date. Please remember to send your child to school in appropriate clothing, with school uniform in a bag.

We also intend to hold a palaeontologist 'Dig Day' in school when we will be searching for any signs of prehistoric life within the school grounds. We will inform you of the date as soon as possible.

We are planning a visit to **Wookey Hole Caves** and again will inform you of dates at the earliest opportunity.

### Miss Midgeley

At the end of this week we will be joined in Class Two by Miss Midgeley who will be with us until 21<sup>st</sup> June. Miss Midgeley is a Bath Spa University teacher who will be working more and more extensively with the whole class, as part of her PGCE teaching degree. We will be working closely alongside her and hope you and the children find her approachable and the children really enjoy her lessons.

### Barnaby Bear

We will continue to send home Barnaby Bear on a rota basis. We would appreciate it if you could encourage your child to complete a page or two of Barnaby's diary and bring him back within a week to pass on. We have certainly enjoyed sharing the diary entries so far.

## Homework

Please continue to hear your child read at least four times a week at home. The excellent work you do in this area makes a huge difference. We will continue to reward children who read regularly with stickers, counted every Monday. It is also worth spending time reading to your child as their story telling and writing reflects the phrases and ideas they hear.

A list of spellings is attached. Again, it is important that your child has some experience of learning these spellings at home. Many children find the Look, Cover, Write, Check method of learning spellings helpful. This follows the sequence:

LOOK at the word

COVER the word

WRITE the word

CHECK their spelling against the word.

Alongside their weekly spellings the children are learning the correct spelling of high-frequency tricky words, in preparation for assessment of the new Spelling Milestone.

Many children in Class Two have now achieved their Number Bond Milestone 1 (number bonds to 10). If your child is yet to achieve this, extra work to help recall all pairs of numbers that make 10 is invaluable and helps in many areas of maths. Number Bond Milestone 2 seemed to be a big jump for many of the children who attempted it last term. Therefore, any help with knowing pairs of numbers to make 20 will assist the children at this level. This could also link to number bonds to 10, ie  $4+6=10$  so  $14+6=20$  and  $4+16=20$ .

It is also worth mentioning our Handwriting Milestones. In order to achieve Milestone 1, all letters need to be formed correctly. In order to achieve Handwriting Milestone 2, all of the letters need to be sitting on the line and of a consistent size. This is a difficult step for many children and it is not intended to be reached without effort from the child. It is rare for a child to reach Milestone 2 in Year One, but not impossible!

As always, if you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

Mrs Lake and Mr Falkus