



Team Dolphin Newsletter



Autumn 1—2020

Year 1/2

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year! It is so wonderful to see our school full of smiles again, and I have loved getting to know some of the new faces in Team Dolphin during our first two weeks together, as well as welcoming back our lovely new Year 2s. I know there have been some changes to our routine this year, and I want to thank you for your patience and co-operation whilst we all get used to new procedures. Our Christian Value this half term is "Friendship", and I have already been so pleased to see how the Year 1s and 2s are bonding as a class group. I think it is going to be a brilliant year.

Best Wishes,

Spellings

In Team Dolphin, children are expected to learn a number of spellings at home each week for a quiz that will take place on **Wednesdays**.

New spellings will be sent home each Thursday. Please ensure that your child has their **spelling book with them on a Wednesday** for our quiz.

PE

P.E. this half term will take place on **Fridays**. Your child will need to come to school in their full PE kit on this day. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and has a suitable jacket or jumper with them, in case the weather changes as the day goes on.

Snack Time

If you choose to send your child to school with a snack from home, please make sure it is **labelled with their name**. This avoids confusion for the children when picking their snack from the box. Please remember that snacks should be a portion of fruit or vegetable. Children who do not bring a snack are offered a piece of fruit at snack time.

Key Dates

From now on, all our calendar dates will be updated on the school website. This will be kept up to date and will provide consistency across the school. Please visit:

<https://www.darringtonschool.co.uk/calendar/?calid=4&pid=34&viewid=5>

The e4education News & Events app will allow parents to get the latest news stories and calendar events added to the school website straight to their iPhone, Android or Windows phone.

For more information please see the Parents' section of our website.

Home Learning

We will be continuing to use Google Classroom to set home learning in the event of a class or year-group having to self-isolate. Your class teacher may also set homework tasks on here throughout the year. We will be sending out some extra information on how to use this with this newsletter. Please speak to a member of staff or email admin@darringtonschool.org.uk if you do not yet have any login details for this.

Please also check the class pages section of the website for links to other resources which can be accessed if needed.

What are we learning this half-term?

Topic

Our topic this term is "Once Upon a Time". We will be looking at traditional fairy tales and using the book "The Jolly Postman" by Janet and Allan Ahlberg to support our learning. In DT, we will be making glove puppets to put on our own traditional tale puppet show, and in Art we will be looking at different techniques of children's illustrators and trying to recreate their styles. In Geography we will be learning about the human and physical features of the United Kingdom and our local area, and in History we will be thinking about changes within living memory.

English

In English, we will be working closely within our topic to write for different purposes. We will be learning to re-tell different traditional tales and comparing the similarities and differences between the tales we have learned about. By the end of the half term, we will have planned and written our own traditional tales by thinking about their structure and re-occurring characters. Year 1 will be focusing on adding instrokes to their letters in handwriting, whilst building on their learning from reception to use full stops, capital letters and finger spaces. They will begin to expand their sentences by using the word "and". Year 2 will be learning to join their writing during handwriting, and looking at how they can make their writing really interesting to read by choosing fantastic expanded noun phrases and creative vocabulary.

Maths

In maths this half term, Year 1 and 2 will be completing units on Number and Place Value. Year 1 will focus on number formation and ordering, as well as counting forwards and backwards in 2s. Year 2 will be working on counting and ordering numbers to 100, before beginning to learn to count forwards and backwards in 3s. Towards the end of the half term, we will begin a unit on addition and subtraction, where Year 1 will focus on number bonds to 10 and 20, and Year 2 will begin to look at adding two and three digit numbers.

Science

In Science, we will be learning about Everyday Materials. We will be identifying the materials that different objects are made from, and thinking about why their properties make them a good or bad choice. We will be investigating how we can change different materials by bending, squashing, stretching, and twisting.

PSHE

Our theme in PSHE this half term is "Keeping Healthy". We will be learning about what our body needs to stay healthy, and how we can look after ourselves by making healthy choices. We will be following the SCARF scheme by Coram Education to complete this unit.

RE

This half term, our RE focus is "What does it mean to belong to a Faith community?" We will be looking at the theme "belonging" in Muslim, Jewish and Christian stories, traditions, and ceremonies, as well as thinking about what "community" means to us.

Phonics

Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to follow our successful "Read, Write, Inc" scheme for phonics. Year 1 will begin to learn their "Set 3" sounds whilst revising their "Set 2" sounds from Reception. Year 2 will revise their learning from last year in preparation to sit their Phonics Screening Check before Christmas. We will release more information about the Phonics Screening Check at the start of the next half term.