

## Homework

In Year 2 homework will be given to the children every Thursday. All homework should be returned the following Wednesday.

**Spelling**—Your child will receive spelling homework every Thursday. Please help them to look at and read the word, say the word and then cover and try to write the word from memory.

**English** activity—each week your child will receive an activity to complete. Please ensure your child spends at least 15 minutes a day on their literacy.

**Maths** activity— each week your child will receive an activity that will help them to develop their numeracy skills and knowledge. Please ensure your child spends at least 15 minutes a day on their numeracy.

## Research Learning Project

This half term in year 2 we are learning about explorers. As part of our unit we will look at other countries around the world where famous explorers have journeyed. For your research project this half term we would like you to explore a country or city of your choice and create a travel scrap book or diary of your journey.

### Key learning

Developing knowledge of destinations visited by famous explorers  
Practising research skills  
Practising writing skills

### Success Criteria

Research places famous explorers have travelled to  
Choose a country or city you would like to travel to and research this further (e.g. find out what the weather is like, what plants/animals live there, what are the people like there, what kinds of holidays do they celebrate etc.)  
Create a poster, fact file or collage about your chosen country or city  
Plan your journey, including how will you get there, what will you take, what will you do there etc.  
Create a travel scrap book or write diary entries to document your journey to and around your chosen country or city

### Ways to help

Help your child to research countries around the world where famous explorers have travelled.  
Question them on what their chosen place is like and how they will travel there  
Help them evaluate their work by asking questions about it  
Help them to manage their time. We suggest spending 2 weeks researching destinations, 1 week creating a fact file or collage about the chosen place and 2 weeks creating a scrap book or diary entries.

Deadline: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

If you have any further questions about this research project, please speak to your child's class teacher for more information.



## Year 2 Newsletter Autumn 2

Ms Duong — 2D class teacher, Ms McClelland — 2M class Teacher and Year Leader  
Gareth —Higher Level Teaching Assistant  
Selina and Rayhana —Teaching Assistant, Rahela —Learning support assistant

Welcome back after the half term break. The Year 2 team is looking forward to another exciting half term. Below are some notes and reminders so that this year runs as smoothly as possible. Please take time to read the newsletter with your child and keep it in a safe place. If you have any questions or require any help or support, please speak to any of the team before school from 8.55am.

### School hours:

Thank you to all the children and parents who arrive promptly at school. Children should arrive at school by **8:55am**. The school bell will ring at **9am** for the **start** of school. School **finishes** at **3.30pm** and children should be collected on time. As the weather is beginning to get colder please remind your child to wear a warm coat and appropriate footwear. It's a good idea to make sure your child brings a water bottle to school, which should be clearly labelled with their name, so they can stay hydrated. This helps them to learn better.

**Trips**—To support the children's learning in their topic of Explorers, the children will be visiting the National Maritime Museum and the Cutty Sark on **Monday 27th November**. If you would like to help on this trip, please speak to Shelly or Florida.

### Home Reading

At home, please read with your child as much as possible. They should be reading for 10-15 minutes each day to help improve their reading. Each week pupils will take home a reading book. Please remind your child of the importance of looking after their books and ensuring they return it to school weekly so it can be changed. Any books not returned after 2 weeks will be assumed lost and parents/carers will have to pay for the replacement cost.

### Dates for your diary:

Children in Need— Friday 17th November—fancy dress and assembly  
Y2 Parent meetings—  
Christmas Lunch—  
Christmas party—Monday 18th December

\*Behaviour reward —If you receive a Good News Slip this half term your name will go into a reward box and at the end of the term 24 lucky children will be selected from KS1 and also KS2. Your prize will be a KS1 Winter Wonderland party or a KS2 Ice skating at Somerset House provided by our Business Partners Rothschild Bank.



## Ideas on how to support your child's learning at home.

These are the topics we will be learning this half term:

### **English:**

#### **Fiction— Adventure stories**

We will be reading a range of stories involving adventures. The children will be writing their own adventure stories where they will focus on generating suitable plots and characters, and using adjectives and descriptive phrases to describe characters, feelings and settings.

#### **Non-Fiction— Leaflets and Letters**

The children will read and explore a range of leaflets. They will discuss and learn about the features of leaflets, including the layout. The children will plan and create their own leaflet linked to our topic on Explorers. To support your child's learning further you could ask them to talk to you about leaflets you see when you are out, including their layout and design. Towards the end of the half term the children will read and discuss letters and learn about their features. You could support your child by asking them to write a letter to a family member.

### **Maths:**

#### **Number**

The children will continue to develop their quick recall of addition and subtraction facts to 20 and they will use these facts to help them add and subtract larger numbers using written methods. They will also be using written methods to multiply and divide using their knowledge of the 2, 5, 10 and 3 times tables to help them do so. **You can support your child at home by encouraging them to learn and practise their times-tables.** Check out our Frog Homework Site for strategies and games to use - <https://oldpalace-towerhamlets.frogos.net>. If you can not remember your login details, please ask your child's class teacher.

#### **Measurement**

The children will also be looking at money this half term. They will learn the different names and values of each of the coins and notes. They will also looking at adding and subtracting different amounts of money to find the total and give change. Please support you children at home by practicing to identify different coins and notes with them.

**Try these websites for games and activities at home:**

<https://oldpalace-towerhamlets.frogos.net>

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools)

[www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk)

<http://www.primarygames.com/>

[www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc)

### **Topic: Explorers**

The children will be learning all about explorers and exploring. They will explore maps and learn about physical and human features of different places in the world. They will begin to identify countries, continents and oceans around the world and use simple compass directions. They will discuss the features of maps and create their own map using simple symbols in a key. The children will use a range of fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of different areas. Within the topic of Explorers the children will research and learn about the lives of famous explorers in the past, including Christopher Columbus and Robert Scott.

### **P.E : Team Games**

The children will be learning to play a simple team game called Cooperball. During these sessions they will develop their cooperation skills and will continue to develop how to work as a team. **Y2 P.E lessons are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please remember to send your child's PE kit in on these days.**

### **Music: Exploring Pitch**

In Music, the children will be learning all about pitch in music. They will practise singing and playing notes at different pitches and will learn how to control the pitch of their voices. They will learn to identify high and low pitched sounds in music when listening.

### **RE: Giving Thanks—Hinduism**

Year 2 will continue to look at the importance of the family and worship within our society. They will then compare the similarities and differences between Christian family life and Hindu family life. Pupils will learn about these topics using first-hand experiences.

### **Computing: Programming**

The children will develop their understanding of how a computer processes instructions and commands. They will learn how control and direct an on-screen robot by inputting instructions using a computer.

### **Art/ DT:**

This half term we will be having another creative day in which children are given the opportunity to further develop their artistic and designing skills. Children will be looking at the properties of fabric and how they can use fabric in different ways.