



ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH of ENGLAND

(VA) FIRST SCHOOL

25th February 2019

Year 2 Newsletter 4

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope everyone has had a relaxing half term!

During this half term, we will be continuing to concentrate on developing our understanding of how castles have changed over time. We have put periods of history in chronological order on a timeline and discussed what life in a castle would be like in those eras. Now, we will also be identifying features of a castle during different periods of time. In addition to their learning in class, we will also be visiting Alnwick Castle to compare it to Newcastle Castle. To further your child's learning you can continue to read fiction and non-fiction books around materials and castles or visit local castles for them to see a range of styles and ages such as Bothal Castle, Warkworth Castle and Hylton Castle. If your child would like to, you could further research a Motte and Bailey castle online. An interesting project could be to make one in order to develop their understanding of the height of a Motte.

This half term, reading books will be changed on Mondays, where children will be given two or one chapter books to read during the following week. Many children are moving onto reading chapter books now. I would like to take this opportunity to ask that daily comments are written by an adult in the reading record please. This helps me understand their reading journey at home and also track how well they are reading at home. I do read your comments and this enables me to understand how they are reading on a regular basis. If your child is reading a chapter book, please continue to re-read a part of the text or paragraph on each page. Thank you.

PE days this half term, are Tuesday and Thursday. PE kits should be left in school (on cloakroom pegs) and should contain a pair of trainers for outdoor lessons please. PE trainers must only have laces on if your child can tie laces themselves, thank you. Please ensure your child has a water bottle in school on Monday to be returned on Friday.

Homework will continue to be sent out on a Thursday, to be returned the following Tuesday please. This will be one page of English, one page of Maths and spellings linked to the learning we have done in class. Children will continue to be taught the spelling rule and also have time to discuss the definitions of the words. Please continue to discuss the rule and definition of the spelling with your child as this learning is very helpful to remembering a spelling. At this point in the year, it may be useful to occasionally practice some of the previous spellings and common exception words too. Thank you.

I am currently in the process of launching Accelerated Reader in school. This system will enable your child to engage in regular comprehension tasks and read a wide range of books. Launching this system is a huge task so if you have any spare time to volunteer on Monday 2nd March and Tuesday 3rd March, this would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to the parents who have already volunteered! I am very appreciative of your time and much needed help!

It is also important to note that Year 2 is a SATs year. Therefore, I will be holding a SATs meeting Friday 27th March at 9am. I will also be showing you examples of SATs and discuss the process for the children in this meeting. I would like to add, that we will not be mentioning SATs to the children. I look forward to seeing you there and to answer any questions you may have.

I am very grateful to all the parents and carers who volunteer their time in our classroom. If you feel you could donate any (regular) spare time, or know of anyone who is interested in donating some time to school, you are more than welcome to join us. Some parents enjoy helping with visits, others enjoy working with small groups of children

and others like to do things like change books and laminate etc. If you have DBS clearance and are interested in helping us, please speak to me or Mrs Pygal.

If you have any questions, please do pop in to see me at the end of the school day. If this is not possible, as always, feel free to email me. charlotte.orr@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Orr

Dates for the diary

2nd-6th March- Book Week

3rd March Year 2 library visit

4th March Year 2 skipping session- please have PE kits in school

Thursday 5th March- World Book Day. Children are welcome to dress up.

Friday 6th March- Year 2 visit to Life Centre.

9th-13th March- Science Week

Friday 20th March- year 1-4 Mother's Day Worship

Friday 27th March- Year 2 SATs meeting 9:00am – please come along.

Friday 27th March- Year 2 Forest School

Monday 30th March- Alnwick Castle visit

Friday 3rd April- All Saints Easter Service 1:30pm- all welcome

Monday 6th-Friday 17th April– Easter Holidays

Monday 20th April- Back to school