



S I N G L E T O N



CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Leonie Millward

Dear Class 2 families,

Class 2 Curriculum Letter

A very warm welcome to the new school year. I hope you all enjoyed a restful summer and are feeling ready for the exciting term ahead. As the new Class 2 teacher, I am delighted to begin this journey with you and cannot wait to create a term filled with fun, engaging and exciting learning opportunities.

To help us all feel prepared and comfortable, children are welcome to bring in their own pencil case with essentials such as a pencil, rubber, sharpener, colouring pencils, glue stick, and so on. This helps us keep things safe and organised for everyone. Please note this must fit in the children's draw.

Our PE day is on a **Wednesday** and we will explore Netball this half term and Dance and OAA next half term. Children do not need to bring their PE bag into school, they should come into school on Wednesday's ready. Please check your child has:

- A Singleton PE white t-shirt or a polo white t-shirt
- Singleton school jumper/cardigan
- Red or black baggy shorts – not tight cycling shorts (in winter these can be replaced by black joggers or leggings)
- Trainers or pumps.

*All **earrings must be taken out before** the PE day. Children must not wear earrings for PE. If your child cannot remove their earrings, they will take a non-active role in the PE lesson. Staff cannot remove earrings for your child.

School timetable

The school timetable will be packed full of wonderful, enriched opportunities to learn and we look forward to lots of fun ahead. We have returned to a full curriculum timetable for the new school year, with lots of exciting topics and chances to engage and learn new skills to ensure that we have a broad and balanced curriculum.

Snacks and drinks

Children are allowed to bring a snack to school for morning playtime. Please ensure this snack is a healthy fruit option. Water bottles should also be brought to school – children will have access to these throughout the day.

Birthdays

As a reminder, children are not permitted to bring in treats on their birthday. We will always celebrate the occasion in class and sing Happy Birthday, but sweets, cakes and similar items cannot be brought in or shared. This policy is in place due to the number of food allergies across school, and we appreciate your continue understanding and support.

Literacy: As ever, a strong emphasis will be placed on re-visiting and developing new skills in reading, writing and SPaG. Handwriting and spellings are equally important and should be practised. Spelling lists will be given out each Friday and tested the following week. This term we will also continue to use our fabulous literacy scheme of work, where we will be focusing on a 'Teach through a text approach'. Our first text will be *Leon and the Place Between* by Angela McAllister, which will support the children in writing a fantasy narrative. Alongside this, they will also have opportunities to produce a performance review, setting descriptions, a diary entry and written dialogue. Later in the term, we will move on to *The Heart and the Bottle* by Oliver Jeffers. Through this text, children will focus on crafting a 'dilemma' narrative, while also developing their skills through writing dialogue, a postcard, character descriptions, a diary entry and a letter offering advice.

Numeracy: In Numeracy we will be working hard in all areas of basic maths, focusing on addition/subtraction, reasoning about shape, length/perimeter and coordinates. Children will be working towards securing and applying basic skills and applying their knowledge to mental maths and challenges. I would encourage all children to practise their times tables daily and extend their knowledge to corresponding division facts ready for tests. Daily Ten, Times Tables Rockstars and Squeeble are ideal for this at home. Your support at home with homework or extra work is always appreciated. Year 4 children will work towards their tables badge and a letter will follow shortly to explain this.

Science: Our first Science topic will be Food and our Bodies, where the children will explore how different foods help us think and grow, learn about bones and skeletons, and discover how we can protect our bones. They will also investigate how our muscles and joints work together to help us move. We will also learn about States of Matter where children will be able to differentiate between solids, liquids and gases, as well as identifying melting points and the process of evaporation.

Topic: In Geography this half-term, children will be introduced to different ways of communicating geographical data, particularly through different styles of maps. They will learn to read weather and climate maps, and learn how weather and climate are generalised into world climate zones. We will also explore the concept of biomes, each with distinctive climate, soil, flora, fauna and human activity. Following this, in History we will investigate the Stone Age in chronological order to identify key dates in this period.

RE: We will continue to follow the Diocese plans and our units will be: Harvest, What is the role of a faith leader who has been called to God? Why is light an important symbol in world faith? Why do Christians believe Jesus is the Son of God? (exploring Jewish beliefs of the Sabbath and the importance of Shabbat) And questioning whether the cross is a symbol of sadness or joy.

PSHE: This term, through our 'My Happy Mind' programme, we will complete the Meet Your Brain unit, where the children will learn about neuroplasticity and meet Team HAP to explore three key parts of the brain – the hippocampus, amygdala and pre-frontal cortex. We will then look at respectful behaviours.

Music: We will begin the year looking at Kapow's scheme of work and South African music where children will develop their listening, rhythm and singing skills through joyful call-and-response songs and lively performances. Then, we will develop our singing techniques through the Viking-themed chants.

ICT: Using our resource, Purple Mash, we will learn about emails, followed by online relationships and privacy. After half-term we will explore hardware unpacking and software, alongside privacy, security and a healthy lifestyle online.

French: The children will be following our fabulous French programme on Kapow and focusing on the unit Greetings. After this half-term, we will move onto describing and using adjectives of colour, size and shape.

Art and DT: In Art this term we will be exploring drawing by observing shapes, textures and patterns, using mark making and shading to add detail and tone. We will also explore digital tools to apply line, shape and shading, and create a final piece inspired by *The Sun*. After half-term we will look at 3D sculptures where pupils will transform 2D cards into 3D sculptures.

Fantastic Friday's: This term the children will be looking at the DT topic wearable technology, developing an understanding of programmable products by designing, coding and promoting wearable technology for use in low-light conditions. In the second half-term we will have forest school and outdoor adventure.

Please see separate Forest school letter to follow from Mrs Rund for our second half of the term.

Important Information Recap

Book Changing day is **Monday**. In addition, each child will have the opportunity to visit the school library.

Homework

This is a vital element of the children's continued learning from school, in consolidating and practicing what is being taught in the classroom. We really need you to support us with this, as that partnership with you is vital in order to be consistent and united in our expectations. Therefore, we ask you to encourage your children to undertake and complete homework tasks in order to promote:

- Good attitude to work
- Self-esteem and a sense of achievement
- Improved standards of performance.

We value the support you give to your children through discussion of their homework and would especially ask you to ensure that your child has the time and environment in which to work undisturbed. We ask that you ensure that your child completes their homework each week.

Online homework will be set every Friday on 'My Maths'. Homework should be completed within one week (please remember to call if you have any concerns or queries). In addition, I would ask that all children must **read at least 3 times a week**. Children are free to change their books when necessary, although this is usually done on a Monday. Some children who need extra help with reading will be heard every week and

we try to record this in planners. Whatever stage your child is at in reading please encourage reading for enjoyment and understanding and also to help them to develop research skills. Times tables tests and practise will also continue in addition to the above and children will be regularly tested in class.

Purple Mash - Spellings

You will be aware that at Singleton we use Purple Mash to support our teaching of the computing curriculum. Purple Mash is a fantastic platform that covers a wide range of subjects from the National Curriculum. Every Friday, children will come home with a 'Look, Cover, Write and Check' sheet to work through. Once completed, they should log on to Purple Mash and complete the corresponding quiz, which will support their learning of the spellings. On the following Friday to the spellings being set, the children will complete a short test in class. Children's log in details for Purple Mash will be stuck in their reading planner.

Reading Eggs

All of Class 2 will have access to Reading Eggs. Your child has their passcode inside their planners.

Homework grid

Class	Maximum Time per night	Daily homework	Weekly tasks		Homework given out	Homework due in	Other
3/4	25 – 35 minutes	10 mins reading each night (Independent readers at least 3 times a week)	My Maths	20/30 minutes	Friday's online	Friday's online	Throughout the year the children will also have: Home project – information will be sent out separately regarding these Y4 please practice Times Tables every night – please use Top Marks Daily Ten, TTRS and Purple Mash for the replica test
			Times Tables – TTRS, Hit the Button, Top Marks	20 minutes			
			IDL	20 minutes			
3/4			Literacy	15 minutes	Friday's	Date provided	This might be IDL, home projects or a specific piece of work. Literacy/spellings list or SPaG given to the children.
Reading book information: Books will be changed on Monday's .							

Drop off and collection

A reminder that classroom doors open at 8:40am. Please be prompt when dropping off/collecting pupils. Please ensure that all children are accompanied by an adult at all times. I will be available at the end of the school day to speak to at the classroom door if you wish. Alternatively, for anything urgent please contact the school office and they will forward this on to me.

Thank you for your continued support- it truly means a great deal. I am very much looking forward to an amazing first year together and all the wonderful learning ahead.

Many thanks,
Miss Gillett