Year Two Newsletter

Driving Questions: If I were a ladybird, where would I want to live? How can we, as Geographers, investigate the differences between Banbury and London?

Literacy
We will be kicking off the school year by looking at 'The Bad-tempered Ladybird' by Eric Carle linked to our micro-habitats topic. We will be discussing the character and their actions as well as writing a wanted poster about the ladybird. We will also be looking at Marvellous Moon Map and creating our own moon map! This term our class text will be Paddington. We will be using this text to inspire different styles of writing such as 'How to Care for a Bear', a postcard to Aunt Lucy and describing London's landmarks.

***Ideas for at home**: Practise your reading and phonics by playing online games on phonicsplay.co.uk, ictgames.co.uk or using ruth miskin videos.*

Handwriting – In September, we will be having a big push on handwriting to ensure letters are formed correctly and are the right size and orientation, including ascenders and descenders.

Maths
This term we will be concentrating on consolidating our place value knowledge of numbers up to 100. By doing this, we will be using skills such as: reading and writing numbers, representing numbers, counting forwards and backwards as well as comparing numbers. All of these skills will give us the foundation for the rest of our maths learning in Year 2 as well as further up the school. In addition to this, we will begin to look at our fact families using our number bonds to 20 e.g. 14+3+17, 17-3+14, 3+14=17, 17-14=3

***Ideas for at home:** At home, you could practice counting forwards and backwards from any number, you could also try reading and writing numbers that you see over the holidays or around your home. Topmarks also has some great games to help with this* https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting *Please log into Numbots or use the WhiteRose 1 minute app to support your child.*

PE
The children have two PE sessions a week. As PE days can change, to help us out, please could your child's PE kit be in school all week. These are placed in boxes above their coat pegs. One session will be outside each week, so please ensure your child has black tracksuit trousers and a black plain jumper especially as the weather gets colder.

PE kit should be a white t-shirt, black coloured shorts, black tracksuit trousers, black jumper and trainers or plimsolls. Make sure all their kit is labelled clearly and is kept in a named bag in a box. Please also ensure jewellery is not worn on PE days.

Our PE days are **Tuesday and Friday** this term.

Creative Curriculum
Our focus this term will be linked to our topic questions: If I were a ladybird, who would I live with? and How can we as Geographers investigate the differences between Banbury and London? Our afternoons will primarily have a science and geography focus where we will look at different microhabitats and the minibeasts found there. We will then move on to thinking about Banbury where we live and comparing it to London, looking at similarities and differences between them and locating them on a map. We will also be having a focus on mental wellbeing and helping children describe their feelings, using the Zones of Regulations, and strategies to help them.

E – Safety
Our main focus in computer safety this term is about being safe online, ensuring the children are not talking to people they don't know online and what to do if someone tries to be their friend in a game. We will do work on

this in school and discuss different scenarios with the children where they might face this. Please make sure you always monitor what your child is doing online.

Reminders and dates

Uniform: Please make sure that all uniform is **clearly labelled** in case it is misplaced. That way it can be returned to the correct class as soon as it is located. We have a lost property box in the cloakroom if anything does go missing.
Homework: We have sent out a homework project for the term due on September 18th. Please try and complete one or two of the activities on it. We will also be sending homework home in their homework books, just like in Year 1. However, we will also be using **Seesaw** to share homework with you (like tapestry). You will be given more information about this at the start of term 1.

Dates

https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2026/07/Term-1-dates-2026.docx.pdf