



Welcome Back

We hope you had a fantastic half term break and managed to have some time relaxing with your family. Thank you all for working so hard in spring 1. It has been a very challenging time and we appreciate how much effort parents and children have put into managing the demands of remote learning in the first half of the term.

Children's wellbeing and their smooth transition back into school life will again be an important focus when all children return to school on **Monday 8th March** after the extended lockdown period. It has been lovely to keep in touch with you in our twice daily Zoom calls over the past weeks, but we are really looking forward to returning to face to face teaching in school so the children can reconnect with their friends and engage with the exciting learning opportunities we have planned for the rest of this term.

Year 2 Spring 1 Global Curriculum Learning:

Our Global Themes are Social Justice and Human Rights.

English and Reading

This half term, our **core book** is Hermelin by Mini Grey. Although Hermelin is just a mouse, he is also a brilliant detective! The occupants of Offley Street are delighted when their missing items are found, but not so happy to learn that their brilliant detective is a mouse! Will he be appreciated for his talents? Will he ever find a friend to help him?

The children will use this story as inspiration to create a newspaper article about gender roles, stereotypes and human rights. They will write informative leaflets, which will be distributed via Google Classroom, the school website and via email to families and the school community.

In reading, children will focus on a range of reading skills including inference, making connections, summarising, evaluating, clarifying and questioning. They will be reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts linked to our global theme of Social Justice and Human Rights.

Maths

During this half term, children will be developing their understanding of 2D and 3D shapes and their properties. They will use their knowledge to investigate and solve problems in real life context involving shapes. In addition, they will find out fractions of shapes, amounts and numbers. The children will learn to compare fractions and use their skills to find equivalent fractions.

Science

In science this half term, they will learn different life cycles of the animals including humans. This will lead them to analysing and comparing different stages of life cycles. In addition, we now have a collection of live caterpillars in school so we can observe their transformation! They will witness the caterpillars' metamorphosis first hand and this will provide opportunities for life drawings and recording the changes over time.



Art/Design Technology

Throughout this half term, we will be focusing on the inspirational painting of Vincent Van Gogh 'The Moths'.



The children will create a butterfly in the style of Van Gogh and they will experiment with colours, textures and techniques to make the desired effect. In addition, the children will reflect and evaluate their work with peers to make improvements.

History/Geography

The children will continue to research about the work and life of Dr Barnardo and they will compare Victorian and modern schools. They will develop their viewpoints about different historical events which occurred during the Victorian Times.

In geography, they will explore the important buildings in London and compare them with the Croydon landscape and architecture.

Useful Information

PE Kit

Children will have PE every **Monday** and **Thursday**. They will be continuing their gymnastics sessions with Coach Stephanie until the end of term and also have an outdoor PE session.

Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on these days and that all items are clearly labelled with their full name.

Reading

Please ensure your child reads for at least 15 minutes a day, either independently or aloud and continue to comment in your child's reading record book. We are very pleased to announce that every child also now has access to an exciting range of online texts via **Bug Club**, a separate letter explaining how to sign in and access the platform has been sent to parents this week.



Water Bottles/Clothing

Children are encouraged to bring their own water bottle to keep in class which they can access throughout the day as our water fountains are out of use. Please make sure your child's bottled is clearly labelled with their name and class.

Diary Dates

Monday 8th March –school reopens for all pupils

Easter Break – from Thursday 1st until Friday 16th April