

Year 2 Newsletter

Spring Two 2025



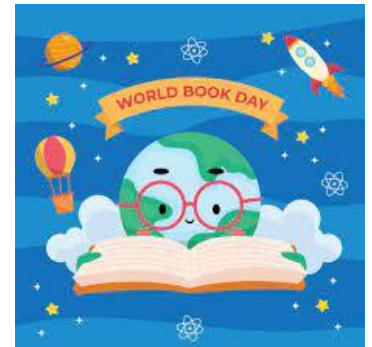
Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term! It was lovely to see you all the parents in face-to face meetings for parents evening at the end of Spring 1. We are all so proud of your children.

How are we in Spring 2 already? We have so much wonderful learning planned for this half-term... we can't wait to get started!

WORLD BOOK DAY

We have World Book Day on **Thursday 6^h March** and, this year, the whole school is going to be having a Festival of Reading! We have so many wonderful activities to do that celebrate books to promote a **lifelong** love of reading!

Children can dress up as their favourite book character if they would like to – and if they would rather not, that is okay too! Our main aim of the day is to have a joy and pleasure in sharing books.



CURRICULUM



Our new theme this half term is Up, up and away , linked to journeys. We will use this to link many curriculum areas .

In **English**, we will be beginning with the wonderful story 'Journey' by Aaron Becker. Here the children will be using their inference skills to identify feels and clues to how the main character is feeling at different points in the text. We will use our reading skills to help us and our lenses to help with both reading and writing! We will be making predictions and will also be using our empathy skills to put ourselves in the position of the main character , writing descriptions and first person

recounts.

In **History**, we will be looking at the life of Neil Armstrong and his journey into space. We will be placing events into a timeline with other aspects of History we have learned about this year, such as The Gunpowder Plot, The Great Fire of London as well as the learning about Rosa Parks , dates linked to Remembrance Day and dates of the artists we have learned about. We will also be learning about Catherine Johnson and her amazing work in space travel.



In **Science** we will be continuing with our theme of 'Animals including Humans' . We will be learning about germs and how to wash our hands correctly and will be investigating bacteria in a potato investigation! In addition we will be learning about the importance of exercise and a healthy diet in order to keep our bodies working well. We are excited that we will be having a Science week and have a special visitor coming to talk to us . He is going to talk about his role as an Aerospace Engineer!

Our Science links to **PSHE** . In our Jigsaw lessons, we will be learning about creating a healthy mind and healthy body.



In **DT** we will be developing an understanding of structures and will be investigating free standing structures, designing a photo frame, making it and evaluating our work. This will build upon the skills in Autumn term where we learned about moving mechanisms and the children are going to be able to use saws!

In **RE** we will be learning about the Jewish and Christian faiths, building upon our learning in the Autumn term and will be learning about the celebrations around this time of year. We will learn about Jewish symbols, the Mezuzah and the customs that those of the Jewish faith follow during Shabbat and will learn about how and why Christians celebrate Easter.

We have so much exciting learning to do in such a short half term!

PE reminder



The children need to wear PE kit to school on their PE days please.

Your child cannot wear any jewellery during PE. If your child has pierced ears, please ensure that they can either remove the earrings themselves, or that they do not wear them on PE days. Alternatively, please provide them with a roll of micro-pore tape to keep in their PE bag so that they can cover their earrings. Children with long hair will also require a hair band to tie it back.

Can we also take this opportunity to remind you that children should only have **school PE kit**. Please refer to the school's uniform policy for clarification if you are unsure. This can be found on our website.



We would like your child to read for a short while each night.

Reading is so important to all other areas of the curriculum and opens a world of learning to your child. We see it as a **vital** part of their home learning.

Many of our children now read with increasing accuracy, fluency and prosody (expression). Thank you for your support with this, we have really appreciated your targeted comments and it has helped us to move your children on in their reading.



We are promoting a **mastery approach** to reading – where children read with pace and flow, they use expression and spend time on a book, reading sections more than once so that they sound like a storyteller, rather than race to read the next one without really understanding the text.

You can support this by reading some of the pages to your child as a good model and then they copy your expression, this is not cheating.... this is great learning and will increase comprehension skills enormously! We are keen to work in partnership with you and it is great to see so many of you writing comments in the red **Home School Link book**.

We are continually assessing accuracy, use of their **phonic** knowledge, pace of reading and deep understanding of the text. When ready, we will move their phonic book set and reading band level. We want your child to enjoy the books on offer at each level, to have a breadth of book styles and content. The more they read the more words they learn and the cleverer they become! It really does make such a huge difference to all areas of learning.



Your child will be bringing home a **library book** each week, a colour coded book for language acquisition to share with you, which they can change themselves on their designated day and a book that is directly matched to their phonic ability (until they have a secure knowledge and use of all phonemes). This book is their reading book that they read to you and will be changed by the class teacher once a week – to ensure mastery of the text and lots of rehearsal with the sounds in the book. Making sure that they can blend the sounds at pace to increase pace and comprehension.

If you need any advice on hearing your child read, please talk to a class teacher or Mrs Truan. There is just a quick reminder that our VIPER questions are on the website on our Year 2 page, and we have uploaded additional questions to Google Classroom. If you would like a printed copy, please let us know.



We are continuing to track all of the Year 1 and Year 2 tricky words that children need to know how to spell and use in their writing. Please help your child to learn the words that have not been retained. We will be doing checking these at the start and just before Easter break. We will send home their results so that you can support them. The words are checked in the context of written work and dictations rather than spelling tests each week.

You will receive a weekly update on Google Classroom of the sounds and words that have been learned each week (apart from the first week of every half term which is an assessment and review week) so that you can play games and practise these with your child. These are wording the children will have been taught – we want them to show you how confident they are!

Maths



Mymaths homework is set each Friday and is linked to the work we are learning in class. The children can do each piece as many times as they wish and can try to improve their scores.



TT Rockstars can also be used to support number fluency as well as

the

White Rose app ‘**One Minute Maths**’ which is excellent for number fluency.





We begin March with the value of **friendship** . We will learn in our assemblies about showing friendship to others.



Thursday 6th March – World Book Day – Let’s get reading! You can dress up too if you choose or wear uniform as normal.

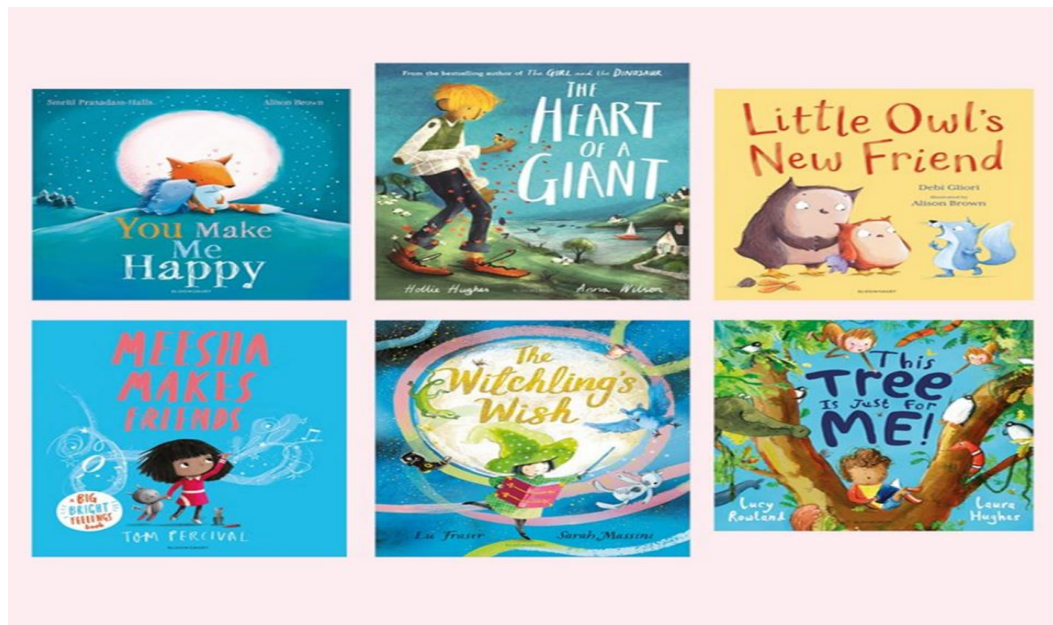
Wednesday 12th March – We have a visitor for Science week!

Friday 21st March – Comic Relief Day – dress like you’re in the 1980’s

Friday 4th April – Priory Rise ‘Sing off’ and end of term



Books we love !





We love working in partnership with our parents. Please let us know if you have questions or need additional advice.

Please catch us on the gate at the end of the day once all children have been dismissed safely or email us on Year2@pr5d.com .

We will get back to you as soon as we can – please note we do not have email open when we are teaching for safeguarding and privacy reasons.

Please contact the school office between 8.20 am-3.15pm to ensure your message is seen in good time if you need urgent assistance or need us to know something concerning your child for that day.