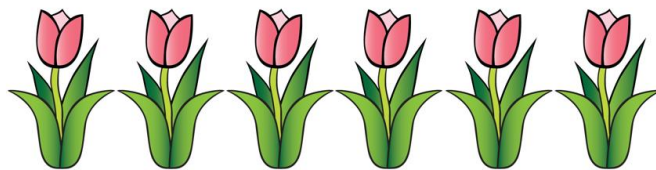
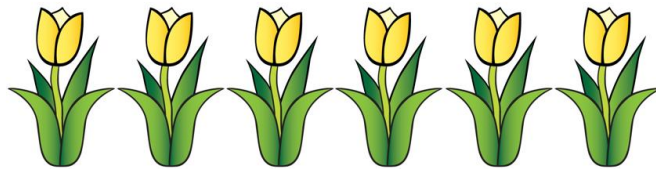
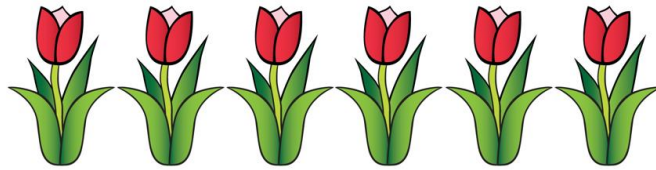


Welwyn St. Mary's Primary School

Spring Term

2024



Year 2

Welcome back to Year 2

H2	BC2
Ms Hewitt <i>Class Teacher</i> <i>H2</i>	Miss Clements Mrs Bould <i>Class Teacher</i> <i>BC2</i>
Mrs Porter <i>Teaching Assistant</i> <i>H2</i>	Miss Howe <i>Teaching Assistant</i> <i>BC2</i>

Welcome back to Year 2 and Happy New Year to you all.

We hope that you find all of the information in this leaflet useful. If you have any further questions about the term ahead, please do let us know so that we can arrange a time to talk to you.

Please continue to

- ensure that your child brings their Home Learning Record and reading book to school every day.
- ensure that your child's clothing (hats, scarves, gloves and jumpers in particular!) is clearly named.
- speak with us if your child struggles with a piece of homework or has any worries

Thank you!

The Year 2 team

A quick reminder of our School Uniform...

Our school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral as possible.

School Uniform	
Trousers, shorts, skirt, pinafore	Grey
Polo shirt, shirt, blouse (with or without logo)	White
School sweatshirt, cardigan *(with or without logo)	Maroon
Plain sensible shoes (no trainers, sandals or boots)	Black
Socks/tights (not trainer socks)	Plain grey
School pink check cotton dress and plain white socks (maybe worn in summer term and up to October half term only)	
*Preferably children should have one sweatshirt or cardigan with a logo	

Additional items
Water bottle
Sun hat (in summer)
Reception and Year 1 - School book bag from uniform supplier
Year 2 - Year 6 - Small rucksack
Hair accessories- small plain clips, bands, ribbons in brown, black or maroon
Key stage 2 - Shin pads for hockey and football
Optional fleece or jacket with school logo for outdoor use

PE Kit	
Plain PE shorts	Black
Long plain tracksuit bottoms for colder weather	Black
Trainers for outdoor games	
PE hoodie with house coloured logo	Available from uniform suppliers
Key Stage 1 and Reception only Coloured 'house' T-shirt	Available from the school office
Key Stage 2 only PE polo shirt with coloured house logo	Available from uniform suppliers
PE kit should be worn to school on PE days	

Jewellery, hair and nails

We do not allow jewellery in school as it can be a source of danger in P.E or at playtimes. Pierced ears should have a stud only. Earrings have to be removed or taped for P.E. Please ensure long hair is tied up. Long hair must be tied with plain or simple bands, clips or ribbons in black, grey or maroon.

No 'fashion' cuts are allowed.

Nail varnish should be removed before the start of each school day.

Topics for this term



On returning to school, the children spotted some peculiar things hiding behind the bookshelves, amongst the footballs and under the tables. On closer inspection, the children discovered they were in fact ... dragons! This discovery launched us into our new unit of work based around the imaginative story *The Dragon Machine*, a story about a lonely boy who has a passion for dragons. So far the children have used noun phrases to write a missing poster, used a range of different sentences to write a dragon encyclopaedia and used interesting verbs to explain how the dragon machine moved. Next week, they will be applying all of their skills to plan and write their own stories

This term, the children will also be writing reports about the Arctic and The Great Fire of London, developing their speaking and listening skills through performing and writing Spring poems using a variety of interesting vocabulary and using adverbs of time to sequence the Easter Story. After half term, we will be jumping into an exciting whole school text - we cannot wait!

Grammar

The children continue to enjoy our 'Stop! Grammar Time' sessions where they learn about the structure of our language. This term we will be focusing on the use of conjunctions to extend and expand our sentences (because, that, if, when), adjectives to describe nouns (colossal, delicate) and adverbs to describe verbs (silently, patiently). You could look out for these different types of words when reading with your child and encourage your child to use them in their spelling sentences. Karate Kats is a fun website to support your child to practise and build upon their grammar skills.

Karate Kats: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zdp4pg8>

Phonics

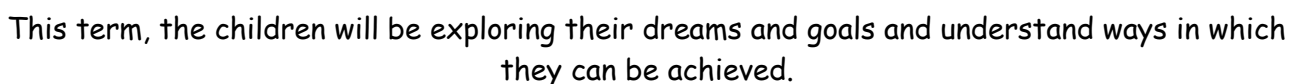
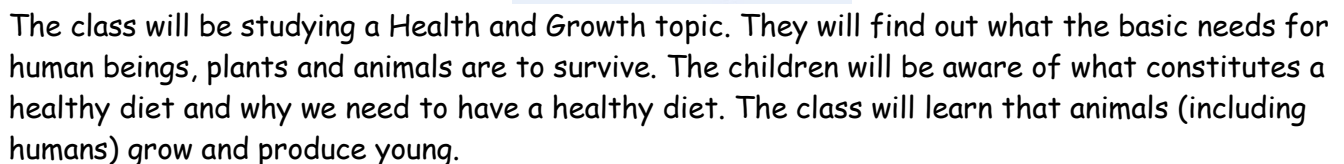
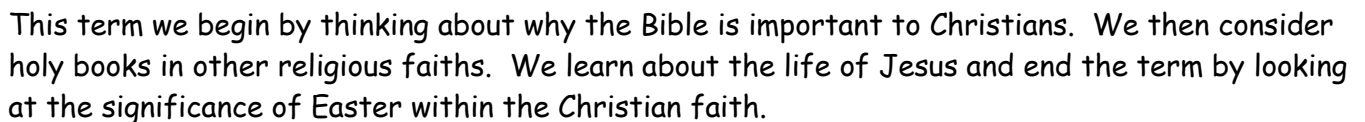
In phonics this term, the children will be learning rules for adding suffixes to root words (-ing/-ed/-er) We will, of course, continue to practise the graphemes already learnt and learn some more, including those with silent letters (gn/kn/wr). The weekly spellings we ask the children to learn closely correspond with the phonic focus for each week. Please continue to support your child to learn their spellings at home.

Reading

Guided reading is beginning to look a little different in school as we have begun whole class guided reading sessions. These reading sessions will help your child to develop reading, comprehension, grammar and punctuation skills, as well as share ideas about characters, events and the language chosen by the author. We have bought several new and exciting new texts for the children to read and enjoy while developing their skills of reading.

Please continue to encourage your child to read their individual books at home every evening for at least 10 minutes and note their progress at home in their Home Learning Record book each day. Please also sign it at the end of each week and use it as a way to communicate with us. Reading **TO** your child remains one of the best (and most enjoyable) ways to improve reading skills - even

Topmarks: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games>
Karate Kats: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zf4sscw>





Through our **Famous People** topic, the children will begin to identify and research the influence significant people have had on history and study some important events associated with the periods of history in which these people lived.

In addition, we will find out about famous people who are relevant to the news and events of the year as they occur.

Samuel Pepys and the Great Fire of London

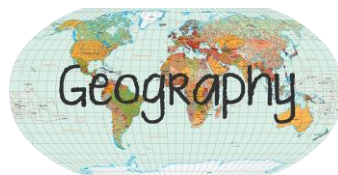
Pepys' diary was written in a secret code. It provides a first-hand account of life during the seventeenth century. The children will study how historians use first hand evidence to learn about things that happened long ago. They will also look in detail at the events of the Plague and the Great Fire of London. A fantastic history workshop day is planned for 29th February. Details to follow shortly on a separate letter.

David Attenborough

To link with our science topics we will find out about the life of David Attenborough. We will focus on how he has informed, amazed and entertained viewers whilst also raising awareness of environmental issues.

Vincent Van Gogh

In art we will focus on work by the famous artist Van Gogh, who is closely linked to Welwyn village. We will explore a range of his work and also visit the village to view the sculpture and also discuss his 100 mile journey.



Last term, we travelled the world with Buddy the Bee, exploring the different continents. Can your child name the 7 continents? This term, the children will compare two different locations (UK and the Arctic) and learn about the life, climate and geographical features in these places.

How can you get involved?

Encourage your child to find out about the topics and eras we will be studying. Use the local library and use the internet to discover fascinating facts they could share with their classmates.



This term, the children will design algorithms and then test those algorithms as programs and debug them.

Homework and Helping your child

Once again, many thanks for your support both at school and home.

- **Reading:** Please continue to read and *talk about* reading with and to your child. A little bit each day makes such an impact and the 'talking bit' helps to further develop their ability to explain their understanding clearly.
- **Spelling** tests have started again and take place every Friday. Remember, a little bit of practice every night really pays off. Please continue to include your spelling words within a sentence too.
- **Maths:** Your child will have maths homework each week. Thank you for your valued help and support in completing this on time.

Timetable

The chart below shows when equipment and homework should be in school. Please encourage your child to become more independent in organising their time and equipment as they go through the year in readiness for KS2 in September.

	YOU NEED TO BRING	HOMEWORK
Monday	Reading Book Reading Record PE kit (BC2)	
Tuesday	Reading Book Reading Record	
Wednesday	Reading Book Reading Record PE kit (H2 and BC2)	
Thursday	Reading Book Reading Record PE Kit (H2)	Return maths booklet today please. Return spelling book today please
Friday	Reading Book Reading Record	New spelling lists home Next maths page home

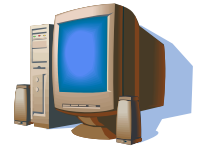
Important Dates

This term:

- 23rd January Year 1 & 2 Disco
- 19th - 23rd February Half term holiday
- 29th February Great Fire of London Day
- 7th March World Book Day
- 28th March Whole School Easter service at St Mary's Church.
- 28th March End of Term

Please continue to check the monthly newsletters for any new events.

E-Safety.



Below is some important information on the school's policies on taking photographs of children as well as a copy of the e-safety agreement that the children sign.

Using Images Safely and Responsibly

We all enjoy and treasure images of our family and friends. Our new born baby, first steps, family events, holidays and school events are moments we all like to capture in photos or on video.

We then have the added and exciting dimension of adding our images and video to our social network, such as Facebook, YouTube and many other online websites. This means that we can easily share our photos and video with family and friends.

Whilst this is naturally useful, in schools and educational settings we do need to protect and safeguard all children and staff in our school, including those who do not want to have their images stored online.

Online Images and Video. *What should we think about before adding online any images or video? Are there any risks?*

Facts

- Once online any image or video can be copied and stay online forever.
- Some children are at risk and **MUST NOT** have their image put online. Not all members of the school community will know who they are.
- Some people do not want their images online for personal or religious reasons.
- Some children and staff may have a complex family background which means that image sharing online can have unforeseen consequences.

We must all 'Think Before We Post' Online

At Welwyn St. Mary's School we are happy for parents and carers to take photos and video of the school events and productions for *personal use* but request that these images are not distributed or put online. This is to protect all members of the school community.

Thank you for your support.

Please note: From time to time we use photographs of our pupils to promote and celebrate the good work in our school. This might be on our website or in paper form to carefully selected audiences. We never publish a child's name alongside their photograph for reasons of safety. If you do not wish your child's photograph to be used in this way please send a letter in to your child's teacher.

Finally ...

Thank you to all those parents who have volunteered their time and support to hear children read in school and help with many other activities. Please speak to us if you would like to join our wonderful team of volunteers. We promise to make good use of your time and talents.

Thank you to all of you for continuing to support your child with their reading, spelling, maths and other projects at home.

Ms Hewitt, Miss Clement and Mrs Bould