



Charlton Kings Infants' School

Lyefield Road East, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 8AY

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Friday 12th January 2024

Dear families

Welcome back to a brand new term and a brand new year! We hope you all managed to spend some quality time with your friends and family over the Christmas break. We have loved seeing all the children back in school and hearing about all the lovely things they have been doing over the holidays.

Our theme for this term will be 'Land and Beyond' with our key question being 'What's out there?' We will begin the term by looking closely at our local area and then later in the term we will move on to what else is out there, including learning about 'Space'. We will follow the children's interests as always and we are excited to work with the children to see which direction their questions will take us. In English we are starting with a fiction unit called 'Little Red Reading Hood' before moving on to some fiction and poetry units linked to our topic and the children's interests. As Mathematicians, we will be continuing with some geometry of shapes, and introducing multiplication and division. As Artists, we will be learning how other artists have used colour, pattern and shape and we will be creating our work in the style of some different artists. As Designers, we will be designing our own fruit salad and stamp as well as learning how to use a blanket stitch when sewing. As Musicians, we will be learning to play the recorder. As Scientists we will be looking at living things and identifying plants and animals in their natural habitats and investigating materials and their uses and thinking about why materials might be used for a specific purpose or not. As computer users, we will be using 2Paint a Picture to create pictures. As Historians, we will be finding out about Charlton Kings in the past by talking to older people, answering questions about the past and researching famous people in history, in particular architects and astronauts.

Some lessons will be taught discretely such as Music, RE and PSHE. In PSHE we will be learning about valuing difference and respect. In RE we will be learning about why Easter matters to Christians and some more about Christianity. In PE, we will be focusing on our cognitive and creative skills alongside our cognitive balance and ball skills with our Real PE programme. We will also be improving our balance, coordination, and agility through our gymnastics. For more information about our Year 2 curriculum this term, please the curriculum pages on our website; <https://www.ckis.org.uk/page/?title=Our+Curriculum&pid=336>

Home learning and reading

We thank you for your commitment to work in partnership with us at school to support your child's ongoing learning and development. Listed below are the ways we will be asking you to support your child's learning at home:

Daily reading: This is essential in developing children's oracy skills, vocabulary and fluency. The class teacher supervises the reading books taken home, but the children will take responsibility for





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choosing their own books from a given range. It is important to encourage children to read a wide variety of different texts including non-fiction and poetry. Children should also have daily opportunities to listen to stories read by family members that are beyond their individual reading ability from our Dream Reads selection.

Spellings: The children are given a list of words to learn to spell each term. For the children to spell these words consistently and independently, they need to practice and repeat them regularly to apply them in their own writing.

Maths: Your child will have continued access to 'Numbots' for daily maths practise and we also recommend the 1 Minute Maths app for practising basic number facts.

Equipment in School

Our storage space is limited in Year 2, and we therefore ask you to only bring a named book bag into school (please do not attach key rings or toys to book bags as they do not fit into our storage drawers/boxes with these attached), rather than large backpacks. Children must have **named** PE kit in school at all times, to include Velcro trainers, black or grey tracksuit bottoms/leggings/shorts, a yellow t-shirt, a plain grey/black sweatshirt and white socks. Please also ensure that children have a named waterproof coat and a named water bottle in school at all times, and continue to bring in a daily fruit or vegetable snack in a named, reusable container.

We will also be taking part in activities in our forest school area throughout this term so please can all children bring in a pair of named wellies and any extra layers to leave in school for the term.

An exciting opportunity to develop Oracy skills across Gloucestershire:

You will soon receive information about a 'Look Who's Talking' competition that we will be taking part in at CKIS. All children in Year 1 and 2 are invited to prepare a 2 minute talk about a subject of their choice. The winner will then go through to represent our school in an inter-school competition. Look out for further information about this exciting opportunity from Mrs James over the next week, and do start thinking about what subject your child/ren may like to present and talk about in front of their class and other members of our school.

Dates for your diary

22nd Jan – 2nd Feb 2024

6th February 2024

9th February 2024

Class heats for Look Who's Talking Competition

Feet First Dance Festival for Sports and Dance Club

End of Term 3

We would like to thank you all for your continued support, The Year 2 team

