



Ernesettle Community School

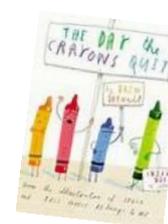
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www.ecs.plymouth.sch.uk
Executive Headteacher: Mr A Meredith
Head of School: Mrs A Pearce



Friday 18th October 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all of your support, it has been a cracking first term in Year 2 and we hope you will have a wonderful half term break with your children. Until Christmas our topic will remain 'From A to B' and we will continue to learn about different types of transport and the ways in which people travel in the past, present and future. In Geography we will be learning about the continents and oceans and will become scientists when exploring friction in Science. We are still keen to have a visitor with an interest or skill in transport, cars or motorcycles, so please get in touch with your class teacher if you can help us out.



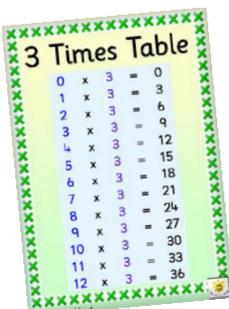
In Whole Class Reading, we will be reading *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt and the *Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg. Inspired by The Polar Express and to get us in the Christmas mood, in November we will be taking the train to Gunnislake and will be doing some observational drawings of our journey and different modes of transport. We will also have hot chocolates on the train and listen out carefully in case we hear the bell ring... Letters regarding this trip will be sent home after the half term break. Fortunately, we are lucky enough to be able to give the children this education opportunity at no cost to yourselves.



In English we will continue to practise our fiction writing through the book *Blown Away* by Rob Bidulph and then take a look at explanation texts by designing a trap to catch an elf! As we approach Christmas, we will have a go at poetry writing using *The Night Before Christmas* by Clement Clarke Moore for inspiration. We will continue our daily handwriting practise so that children develop speed and confidence with their writing.



Maths will focus on the four operations and we will learn to use new multiplication and division skills, alongside developing our times tables. Every little bit of extra practise at home with times tables will go a long way. In Year 2, we focus on the 2, 10, 5 and 3 times tables and we practise chanting them daily. With your extra help at home, your child will reach their goal of knowing these times tables off by heart.



PE this term will be on a Tuesday for 2RL and 2SM. Please make sure your child has their full school PE kit in school on this day. When we can, we take the opportunity to have PE outside and as the Winter weather kicks in, we'd recommend some warm, black jogging bottoms to wear instead of shorts. As part of the school policy, if your child does not have their PE kit in school on this day they will unfortunately miss their break time until it is brought in.

During our topic 'A to B', we will be working closely with a company called 'Bike It', to support your child to have confidence in riding their bike without stabilisers – we are creating the next Bradley Wiggins! Last year this was a huge success and now the children are ready to tackle the school's bike track with confidence.

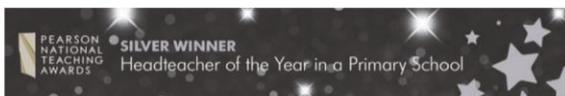
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Homework expectations this year include reading at **least three times per week**, completing a weekly spelling sheet and a weekly English/Maths or creative task. Homework books should be handed in on a **Thursday** so that new spelling sheets and homework can be added and your child's spelling test score can be reported. Homework books will be **returned to you on Friday**. This term's family homework challenge is to create an egg box vehicle that can move and we are looking forward to seeing plenty of entries. Remember the winning entry overall has a £20 Smyths Toy Story reward!

In the latter part of the term, the children will be practising for the Christmas performance. This year KS1 will be starring in *It's a...Nativity*. During the first few weeks back, auditions will be taking place and children, who would like a part, will be offered speaking parts. Of course these are completely optional, but any support at home in learning the lines will be greatly appreciated. Details for the performance times will be sent home to you nearer the time. We might be biased but the KS1 Christmas performance is the best!

Just to remind you, all children in Key Stage 1 are entitled to a free school meal each day. There will be four options available including a hot meal, a vegetarian option, a jacket potato with filling or a sandwich. Your child will be encouraged to pick their option independently during Early Morning Learning.

Again, enjoy the half term break but as always, thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Little and Miss Moore

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