

Year 2 Newsletter

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential to ensure uninterrupted progress and to enable children to exceed their potential. We actively involve the children in achieving this by holding weekly assemblies with a reward for each class who has 100% attendance. Certificates are awarded termly and yearly for all children who achieve 100%. With these rewards in place, the children wholeheartedly strive to be part of the winning class and the support of each other is a pleasure to see; please support your child and ensure they are regular attenders.

Well done to the following children who had 100% attendance last half term:

Elisha B, Charlotte b, Mason B, Declan H, Harley H, Lewis J, Haydn K, Thomas M, Jay R, Ashley S, Tegan T, Ruby W, Nathaniel W.

Good attendance is important because: your child needs to be in the academy to be able to learn and achieve; lessons are taught in a sequence and it can be difficult to catch up if a lesson is missed; children need to have relationships with others and to form lasting friendships; it develops a child's confidence to attempt new work and to work alongside others.

Pupil Reward Points

Being in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing!

The reward scheme allows children to earn points for showing 'Green Behaviour' which may consist of trying hard in their work, being courteous and polite (possibly holding a door open), showing respect to others, arriving at school in time for registration and having the correct uniform. Children also earn 5 points if they are picked to celebrate their work in the Thursday 'Star of the Week' assembly. Children additionally earn points through job roles - the wage of points is preparing children for their later life. Children save points and spend them at the academy swap shop. We will keep you updated as to who the current leaders are.

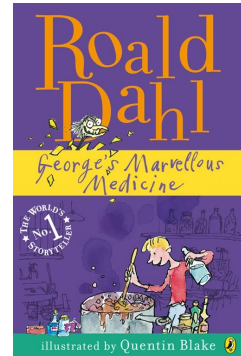


Writing

Every half term, the Butterflies and the Penguins will be studying a specific story which will serve as a stimulus to their writing in their lessons.

We will be studying 'George's Marvellous Medicine'.

Butterflies and Penguins are continuing to study a different type of writing fortnightly, for example story, description and report. As the writing follows a cyclical pattern, the children enjoy the opportunity to revisit each type frequently, in order to become more confident and adept.



Big Writing is part of this pattern and allows the children to produce an independent piece of extended writing, to 'show off' what they know and have learnt.

Blogging forms an important part of our learning and we are keen for all children to share their ideas via the blog both at home and in school on a regular basis.

Maths

The Butterflies and Penguins are learning to get better at **reasoning** within the Maths. This enables the children to explain how they get their answers and explores their investigative skills. It is an essential skill to have! One way to help children use their reasoning skills is within questioning, such as:

- Can you elaborate...?
- Justify why...?
- How do you know...?
- Can you propose an alternative...?
- In your opinion...?
- Prove how you know...?

<http://nrich.maths.org/frontpage> Is an incredibly useful tool and resource that provides children examples of questions and investigations that uses their reasoning skills.



Reading

To promote *reading for pleasure*, we have reinstated Bug Club !

Bug Club is a fantastic online resource that allows reading to be interactive and exciting. It takes children on a personalised reading journey where the only limits are their imaginations. Not only does it allow children to read a range of books online, but it also delivers comprehension style questioning to promote children's understanding of the books that they have read.



All children should have been provided with usernames and passwords for the website. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you require another copy.

www.activelearnprimary.co.uk

MyMaths

The Butterflies and the Penguins class have been given the exciting opportunity to complete their homework online! Every Friday, the class teacher will set the class their homework online and it is to be completed by the following Friday. Children should have all received usernames and passwords. Please see the class teacher if you require another copy.

No internet? Don't panic! All children who do not have internet access will be given the opportunity to complete it in an afternoon.



P.E. / Sport

Penguins lessons are on Tuesday (outdoor) and Wednesday (indoor)

Butterflies lessons are on Monday (indoor) and Thursday (outdoor)

The academy has supplied each child with an indoor P.E. kit, but trainers and outdoor kit may need to be worn in colder weather for outdoor P.E.



Homework

Homework will be set each week.

It will consist of:

- Maths. This goes out on a Friday online and is to be completed by the following Friday.
- Spellings to be practised in preparation for a weekly spelling test every Friday.
- Reading: each child will have their own reading book, which they will need to practise at home. Children are required to read 4 x a week at home.

Topic

This term our topic will be 'Living Things'. As part of our topic learning we will be focussing heavily on Science. As scientists we will be labelling the basic parts of a human body and describe which parts we use to help with our senses. We will study plants and explain why they need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow as well as naming a variety of plants. We will also look at the different habitats and what basic needs animals need in order to survive and how they depend on both plants and animals. As artists we will create collages using different materials. We will use different tones of coloured pencils to draw a self-portrait. As technologists we will use different techniques such as rolling, cutting, moulding and carving to make our own salt dough animals and evaluate our product. As writers we will write for a variety of different purposes by writing a non-chronological report on parts of the human body, write a story using Funny Bones, instructions on how to grow a plant and an explanation on how a food chain works.



Remember to keep up to date with us!

@EstcourtYear2.3 @EstcourtYear2



Blog: estcourtprimary.net

The children love having replies and retweets on our twitter accounts. A huge thank you to all of the families and friends that have followed us! Please continue to encourage our children by replying and commenting on our tweets.

Website: www.estcourtprimary.org.uk/

Purple Mash

We encourage the children to use Purple Mash. It is a learning tool which supports learning through fun games relating to Computing, History, Geography, Science, Maths, Literacy as well as PSHE and Celebrations and Faiths.

Children have been provided with a log in and password, if you have any queries about Purple Mash, please ask your child's teacher.