

Dear **Y2 Beech** Parents and Carers,

This information sheet tells you about the theme being followed for this half term and which subjects are being linked to it and those which will be taught separately. We hope that you find it useful.

**Themes: Why is the weather different around the world?**

The children will be learning about the conditions in the Polar Regions and will be comparing the seasonal and daily weather patterns in the North and South Poles to the United Kingdom. They will be learning geographical vocabulary to refer to the key physical features of the Arctic and Antarctica. They will identify the North and South Poles on a map and identify the Equator and the countries closest to it, as well as hot and cold areas of the world.

**Cross curricular links:**

**Science: Plants**

Children will observe and describe how seeds grow and mature into plants and they will find out and describe what plants need to grow healthily through experiments. They will be able to name the parts of a plant and will explain their purpose. The children will also be learning about the plants that grow in the Polar Regions.

**Subjects being taught separately this half term:**

**English:** Children will continue to develop their reading fluency and comprehension, vocabulary, spelling and sentence formation. The children will base their work on, 'Hermelin: The Detective Mouse' and 'The Bear and her Book' and will be using these stories to further develop their use of inference when reading, as well as beginning to use apostrophes to show possession and contraction. Children will begin to learn to join their handwriting and they will write their own version of the poem, 'The Magic Box.'

**Art:** The children will be experimenting with mixing primary and secondary colours, as well as creating textures using different tools. Children will also be experimenting with different collage techniques.

**PSHE:** What helps us stay safe? The children will learn why it is important to follow rules, as well as learning about the dangers in and around the home and how to stay safe around these dangers.

**Music:** Charanga: Sounds and Symbols 2. The children will be learning to play the glockenspiel.

**RE:** Christianity – What is the Easter story? Children will learn the Easter story and why this is important to Christians.

**PE:** Games (team building) and cricket.

**Computing:** Keep Safe and Create. Children will learn how and why we need to stay safe online and how they can share this message safely with others.

**Maths:** Children will continue to develop their multiplication and division skills, as well as learning to measure in centimetres and metres and they will develop their skills and measuring weight.

**How can you help?**

Practise spellings (including Year 2 common exception words) with your child.

Share your child's school reading book with them. There are discussion points on the back cover to help you with this. This is best done often and in short bursts.

Practise mental maths, particularly number bonds to 10, 20 and 100, discuss time and measure (including money) with real examples. Practise the 2, 5 and 10 times table, both in and out of order.

Encourage your child to tell you what they have been learning about at school and where possible, extend their learning at home, through books, outings, discussions and the Internet.

Please check your child's book bag frequently for newsletters and other information.

**Class Reminders:**

**PE: Monday and Friday.**

Please ensure children come to school dressed in their PE kits on their designated PE day. **Please make sure PE kits and uniform are labelled.**

**Spellings:** Spellings will be given on **Tuesday** to be tested the following **Monday**. Children will be given 10 weekly spellings to learn in Y2. **Spellings will be given out each week on a single piece of paper, which does not need to be returned to school.**

**Class Library:** Children will be able to choose a school library book every **Monday**. Library books should be returned the following week and can then be swapped for a new one.