

Dear parents,

A warm welcome to class 2 and welcome back to the year 2 families. It has been a busy and productive first week and a half at Harewood. I have been so impressed by the way that the children have come back into school. They are amazing!

Here is a run down of what we have been up to so far...

Phonics

We have been learning about the 'ay' spelling of the 'ai' phoneme as in 'play' and for year 2 the 'y' spelling of the 'igh' sound as in 'fly.' We have also learnt about the tricky words said, so, could, should, and for year 2 door and floor.

English

In English we have read the story of Pete the Cat who likes rocking in his school shoes. We thought about what we like doing at school and wrote sentences to match. This week we have read the colour monster who changes colour to match his feelings. We have written some super sentences and made our own monsters.

Maths

The focus has been on understanding numbers to 20 including place value of the numerals e.g. the 1 in fifteen means 1 ten and the 5 means 5 ones. The year 2 pupils have been partitioning numbers to 100.

Other Subjects

We had lots of fun playing with the beanbags in PE and we also had our first session with Jam. We briefly began our topic on Florence Nightingale. We made charts linked to the 400 years of Leeds project. We have learnt about feelings and anger in PSHE. The year 2 children have done some amazing joining in their handwriting folders and the year 1s have been perfecting their first ladder letter 'l' making sure it is tall and it sits on the line.

Homework

Ordinarily a homework folder will be sent home every Thursday with a set of spellings to learn, a maths sheet and an activity related to the weekly spellings. I intended on giving these out with the welcome pack at the pop-in on Wednesday along with a welcome pack which I assume will go ahead this

coming Wednesday instead. For this week I have just sent a list of words home. Year 2's will have a spelling test on these words on Tuesday morning. Year 1's please practice the words too. I won't do a formal test but we will have a go at writing the words in the same format to get used to the system.

I usually put some links on my emails to some homework games that you can play.

Here is a link to a spelling game for the year 1 words.

<https://wordwall.net/play/22129/552/995?wwmethod=link>

Year 2 words

<https://wordwall.net/play/4571/189/852?wwmethod=link>

Year 2 maths games

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/place-value-basketball>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/helicopter-rescue>

Year 1 maths games

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/caterpillar-ordering>

Reminders

Please make sure all items are labelled with your child's name.

Children don't need toys or pencil cases at school. It is safer to leave these things at home.

PE is on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Coats are needed every day just in case please.

Finally, thank you to all of you for your support throughout the Ofsted inspection. We were shocked and surprised to receive the visit so early in the year. It has been a very intense couple of days as in a small school you come straight from a meeting with one inspector to being observed by another and so on. Although we won't have the report for a while we have heard that the parent responses were incredibly positive and that is really appreciated by us all. Thank you so much.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs Dodd