

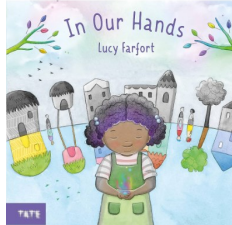


TERM 1

WELCOME TO TERM 1 IN YEAR 2. WE HAVE A VERY BUSY TERM AHEAD AND ARE THOROUGHLY LOOKING FORWARD TO BECOMING DANCERS, ILLUSTRATORS, PRINTERS, SCIENTISTS AND HISTORIANS. WE WILL BE LINKING OUR LEARNING TO OUR TERM 1 & 2 THEME OF 'ARE CASTLES JUST FOR FAIRY TALES?'

English

We have started our English work this term by looking at the book 'In our hands' which is the stimulus for our whole school transition work this year.



This is a beautifully illustrated picture book with a message of hope, unity and positivity that is so relevant and important for the children to see right now.

A vibrant, colourful world begins to fade to grey as 'The Dulling' spreads and all over the land, people seem to give up- "the people in charge shrugged their shoulders and said nothing could be done."

But a small girl discovers "a grain of hope", plants it and growth and colour begin to flourish once again as others join her to tend to the seed.

A wonderful version of a simple yet powerful fable. The glorious colours of the story are full of joy and vibrancy, the narrative is gentle but full of resilience and we are sure it will become a book that the children cherish.

A wish ... We continue to encourage the children to use their sounds when spelling words and would appreciate you doing the same if they are writing at home please.

Reading

This term we will be finding every opportunity to read with the children 1:1. We love this opportunity to spend time with the children helping them to apply their use of segmenting and blending words and then re-reading for fluency. We will also be using questions to help stimulate discussions with the children about their books.

This term we are focusing on retrieval, prediction and vocabulary based questions. We will also use these when we are discussing our texts in English lessons and at the end of the day when we read together.

We ask that children read at home each night where possible and that you sign the reading record. Books will be changed on a Friday to allow time for the important act of re-reading for fluency.

Example questions you may wish to try at home could include:

'Where does ... live?'

'What does the text say ... was made of?' (Retrieval)

'What do you think the word ... might mean? Why do you think that? Are there any clues in the text?' (Vocabulary)

'What will ... do now that ... has happened?' (Prediction)



History.

In Terms 1 & 2 we will be exploring events beyond living memory as well as significant people and places. To begin with we will look at the Normans and consider what exactly caused such a famous battle for someone to become King of England. We will look at the Norman Conquest and consider whether the Bayeux Tapestry is a reliable source of evidence to tell us about the Battle of Hastings? We will then begin to look at Norman castles before exploring castles in more depth in Term 2.



Just a note...

PE lessons are scheduled for **Monday** and **Wednesday** for both classes. Children should come to school in the correct PE kit and sensible footwear. Earrings need to be removed on PE days please as we are not able to remove them for the child.

Homework will be sent home in an orange folder on a **Friday**. Please ensure that your child returns this to school by the following **Wednesday** to allow time for it to be marked. Thank you.

Maths: This term we are starting with Place Value before moving on to some addition and subtraction. We will be encouraging children to develop their reasoning and to use resources which will support them in their learning.

Science: Our science topic this term is called 'Materials Monster' where we will be thinking about what makes everyday materials suitable for their uses. We will consider the properties of different materials and sort them accordingly before inventing our own material for a specific use.

We will also be doing some artwork where we use different materials for printing and explore the different patterns that we can make.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments at all please do not hesitate to let us know through the contact books, or by making an appointment through the office.

Thank you from the Year 2 team.