

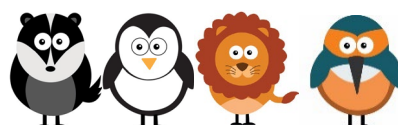
Key Stage 2 Newsletter Spring Term 2023



Tannery Drift
First School

ROYSTON • HERTFORDSHIRE

www.tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas break surrounded by your family and friends. We would like to thank you for the thoughtful cards and gifts we received at the end of last term, it was much appreciated! Welcome back to the Spring Term. There are lots of exciting topics and activities planned for the children.

This newsletter has lots of information about the exciting learning and activities that will take place across Key Stage 2 this term. If you have a particular skill or knowledge that compliments any of our curriculum areas, do let us know as we would love to invite visitors into school this term. Curriculum Overviews for the Spring term are also available on the school website, on the class pages, which give you further information on all curriculum areas.

Topics and Themes

Year 3

Our topic this half term is 'Biomes'. We will be going on an exciting journey around the world exploring climate zones and biomes in more detail. We will learn what the 7 major biomes are, where they are in the world and what features they have, including flora and fauna. To do this we will use maps, atlases and globes to secure our knowledge of continents and hemispheres.

Year 4

Our first half term's topic is 'Rainforests'. We will locate tropical rainforests on a map of the world and identify that they lie between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. We will explore the layers of the rainforest and learn about people who make the rainforest their home. After half-term, we will continue our History learning about the Anglo-Saxons and their struggle for Britain as well as life around the time of Edward the Confessor.

More Curriculum Information

Half-termly curriculum maps detailing themes and learning outcomes across all areas of the curriculum, can be found on our class pages of the school website.

The Maths and English sections of the website also contain more detailed information on year group objectives and methods.

Reading

Of course, reading helps to enrich your child's language and makes them a better writer so please continue to read with your child at least three times a week and sign their reading record. Children in Key Stage Two are expected to change their reading books in class themselves.

Children have whole-class reading lessons where the skills of reading are taught, as well as many additional opportunities to read with an adult or select from the wide range of books we have available in the class to read for pleasure. We endeavour to ensure that children are read to an adult in school once every two weeks.

Year 3

In Year 3, Mrs Jarvis teaches Penguin Class, supported by Mrs Leggett and Miss Clarke; Miss Blake teaches Badger Class, supported by Mrs McQueen. Mrs Goodyear teaches the Penguins on a Tuesday morning and the Badgers on a Thursday afternoon.

Year 4

In Year 4, Miss Seymour teaches Kingfisher Class, currently supported by Mrs Temple-Hill; Mrs McNeill teaches Lion Class, supported by Mrs Tasev. Mrs Goodyear teaches in Lion class on Friday and the Kingfisher class on a Wednesday.

PE

All children in KS2 will be encouraged to be active every day, from the daily mile to active English/maths sessions and formal PE lessons. Children will need to come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE day, as follows:

Year 3 - Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 4 - Monday & Wednesday

Year 3 are lucky to have their PE session on Wednesday taught by Matt Fellingham.

Cloakroom

Please help your child to choose a small school bag or a school book-bag that is appropriate to their needs. Our cloakrooms in Key Stage 2 are small in size and cannot accommodate large bags.

Equipment

Please remember suitable clothing for wet and cold weather. Warm, waterproof clothing is essential on colder days even if your child is normally driven to school. We encourage children to go outside in all weathers and will be outside for many lessons this term. Children must have indoor shoes to change into.

Please check that your child brings a water bottle to school - only water is permitted in the bottles. Children are encouraged to bring a snack to eat at morning break, this should ideally be fruit, vegetables, crackers or plain biscuits. No nut products, sweets or high sugar/salt items (such as cakes, crisps, chocolate biscuits etc.) are allowed as we follow the 'Healthy Schools' initiative.

Home Learning

Please support your child with their reading at home by reading at least three times each week. As children become more fluent readers, checking their comprehension and understanding of a text is key.

This term the children will be introduced to Times Tables Rockstars. Times Tables Rock Stars is a maths programme that takes the worry out of learning times tables and has a proven track record of boosting children's fluency and recall in multiplication and division. This can be used at home to help support with learning times tables.

We hope children are also enjoying '100 Things To Do Whilst At Tannery Drift'. It is always nice to reflect on the completion of these activities

as children end Year 4 so do access the list, which can be downloaded from the class pages on the school website.

Dates for your diary

Fri 27th Parent Coffee Morning – Fussy eating
8.45am-10.00am
GB Gymnast visit

February

Fri 3rd Badger Class Assembly - 9.15am
NSPCC Number Day*

Tue 7th Parent Consultations

Thur 9th Parent Consultations

Fri 10th Parent Coffee Morning –
Building self-esteem & self-confidence
in your child

Mon 13th - Half Term

Fri 17th

Weds 22nd Thinking Day – Rainbows, Brownies, Beavers
and Cubs encouraged to wear uniforms

Fri 24th Parent Coffee Morning – Helping your child
manage their anger
Kingfisher Class Assembly - 9.15am

March

Thur 2nd World Book Day*

Fri 3rd Penguin Class Assembly - 9.15am

Fri 10th Parent Coffee Morning – Sleep, Routines
and Chores
FTDS Disco - evening*

Tue 14th Open Classrooms*

Fri 17th Red Nose Day*

Wed 22nd E-Safety Parent Information Webinar
6.30pm

Fri 24th Parent Coffee Morning – Supporting
your anxious child

w/c Mon 27th Feeling Good Week

Fri 31st Term ends 2pm

*Further details to follow

Best wishes from

The Key Stage 2 Team



Enjoyment, achievement, respect

