

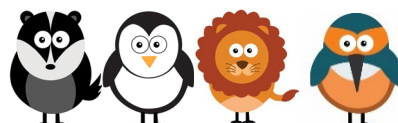
Key Stage 2 Newsletter Autumn Term 2023



Tannery Drift
First School

ROYSTON • HERTFORDSHIRE

www.tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you all had a lovely restful summer break and are ready for the Autumn Term. We are so impressed with how well the children have settled into their new classes and routines and we are very excited for the year ahead.

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. Information about all curriculum areas for the Autumn term is also available on the school website.

Topics and Themes

Year 3

Our History topic this term will involve us going back in time and learning about what life was like from the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. We will also explore the evidence we have of this time period. Our Geography this term is 'Our European Neighbours'. We will be recapping the 7 continents before zooming in on the countries that make up Europe and comparing London to Paris

Year 4

Our first half term's topic is 'Mexico'. We will be learning about the geography of Mexico, including identifying its neighbouring countries and its location on the globe. The second half term's topic will be focusing on 'The Anglo-Saxons and Scots', where we will explore the changes that occurred in Britain during this time period.

More Curriculum Information

We have updated all curriculum pages of the school website, and these give a comprehensive overview of the topics covered and the skills that are taught.

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 skill 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 listened to read in school once every two weeks.

Year 3

In Year 3, Mrs Jarvis teaches Penguin Class, supported by Mrs McQueen and Ms Greenhalgh; Miss Blake teaches Badger Class, supported by Mrs Temple-Hill Mon-Wed and Mrs Paul Thur-Fri. Mrs Goodyear teaches the Penguins on a Thursday morning and the Badgers on a Tuesday morning.

Year 4

In Year 4, Miss Seymour teaches Kingfisher Class, currently supported by Mrs Jacklin; Miss McNeill teaches Lion Class, supported by Mrs Tasev. Mrs Goodyear teaches in Lion class on Thursday afternoon and the Kingfisher class on a Wednesday. Mrs Davies alternates between classes each Tuesday afternoon.

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 - Wednesday & Thursday

Year 4 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. Spelling Shed will be phased out over this term and a new spelling scheme will be introduced after half term. More information on this will be communicated in due course.

By the end of Year 4, children need to know all their times tables up to 12x12. Please practise times tables regularly at home. There are many games, apps and websites that can support this learning and more information about these will be shared in the year group curriculum evening.

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

September

Tues 19 th	Drama workshops Year group meetings*
Wed 20 th	Drama workshops FTDS AGM 7.30pm in the Enrichment Room
Fri 22 nd	Kingfisher Class Assembly 9.15am in the hall – parents welcome
Fri 29 th	Badger Class Assembly 9.15am in the hall – parents welcome FTDS cake sale*

October

Tues 3 rd	Individual and family photographs*
Fri 13 th	Penguin Class Assembly 9.15am in the hall – parents welcome
Tues 17 th	Parent Consultations*
Thurs 19 th	Parent Consultations*
Fri 20 th	Lion Class Assembly 9.15am in the hall – parents welcome
Fri 20 th - 27 th	Half-term
Mon 30 th	Children return to school

November

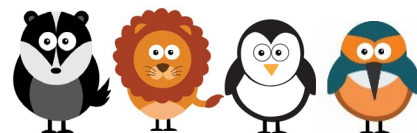
Fri 10 th	Puffin Class Assembly 9.15am in the hall – parents welcome
Tue 14 th	Open Classrooms and Art Gallery*

December

Fri 1 st	Occasional Day – school closed
Fri 15 th	Christmas Dinner Day*
Wed 20 th	End of term 2pm

* More details to follow

Best wishes from
The Key Stage 2 Team



Enjoyment, achievement, respect

