Year 2 Spring 2, 2022

Our *Coastline* topic continues as planned, though with a new text - see below – and Science focus on *Scientsts and Inventors*. This will look at the history of scientific discovery and achievement, thereby covering aspects of History from the Humanities curriculum to complement last half term's largely geographical focus.

	With Coastline remaining as our topic, we have another sea-orientated text ion 'The Storm Whale'
English	by Benji Davies. We will develop and consolidate our grammar skills to ensure we become versatile and confident writers. We have a weekly spelling rule focus as well as those tricky common exception words. <i>Please practise handwriting at home; presentation is a key focus.</i> We will be extending ourselves significantly into longer pieces of writing so stamina in handwriting is vital. The class have 1:1 reading sessions and comprehension lessons which help them to extract as much information and imaginative content from a range of books. The children are read to daily at school; please do so at home and remember that discussing texts after reading together is of huge benefit.
Maths	This half-term we start with <i>Money</i> , still a crucial mathematical concept despite the increasing use of online and app payments. Talk about money with your child and ask them to become familiar with currency. As the year progresses, times tables fluency will be of fundamental importance to all aspects of maths.
	We will soon be tackling shape including 2-D and 3-D shapes. This is a particularly engaging maths topic and one in which families often take great pleasure in exploring, so please feel free to examine different shapes and talk about the shape properties of household objects.
Science	As mentioned, Science has both historical and practical aspect this half term. You can help develop a solid basis by using online resources offered by channels such as the BBC, Discovery and National Geographic to look at the background of scientists such as Charles Macintosh and Rachel Carson in particular.
	We are now beginning to look at using the internet really efficiently, honing our search skills and of course linking to our Science and History investigations. Examine a search engine called <i>Duck Duck Go</i> for a really child-friendly, privacy-focussed search option at home,
Geography/History	Our <i>Coastline</i> topic teaches children about the physical and human features of coastal regions across the United Kingdom, including a detailed exploration of the coastal town of Whitby, in Yorkshire. We are already loving using atlases and we are starting to use compasses
D&T and Art	Beach huts! With specific days such as our fantastic Gorilla visit taking over, we have yet to build our beach hut - but we shall! We'll select from and use a wide range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their characteristics.
PE	Our PE Focus continues on Ball Skills and specifically handling ball skills. The focus of learning will be to develop dribbling in order to keep control and possession of the ball, for instance whilst bouncing and moving with the ball. This will develop into games and a focus on Attack vs Defence.
Music	We are using Charanga this half term to explore pulse, rhythm and beat and the way songs are structured. The children are now exploring reggae and have already learned to perform a simple song.

RE	This half term moves through Islam and onto the Christian festival of Easter. We are always keen to hear from children about their experiences of visiting places of worship
PSHE	This half term we will be focussing on keping ourselves healthy in our <i>Healthy Me</i> topic. Discuss why this is important at home; look at both hygiene and diet as an initial focus.

Homework will be sent home on Thursdays and should be returned by the following Tuesday. Each week your child will have spellings to learn. The importance of your child practising their spellings cannot be overstated – it really helps to boost the level of their writing and the beaming smile of another 10/10 is always worth it. Each child's spelling attainment is recorded, with best scores being highly prized.

Children will have Maths homework which can be found on the MyMaths website, or they can complete the Maths sheet that is stuck into their homework book. Children will be also asked to complete a topic-based activity as detailed on the weekly homework sheet which is stuck into your child's homework book.

Please remember that we are available to speak to, for whatever reason, at the end of each day or by enquiring at the school office.

Many thanks

Mr Atkinson – Class Teacher Miss McLoughlin – Learning Support Assistant