

# Ellesmere Primary School

Elson Road, Ellesmere, Shropshire, SY12 9EU

Telephone: 01691 622288 Email: [admin@ellesmere-pri.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ellesmere-pri.shropshire.sch.uk)

[www.ellesmereprimaryschool.org.uk](http://www.ellesmereprimaryschool.org.uk) [www.twitter.com/EllesmerePS](https://www.twitter.com/EllesmerePS)

Acting Headteacher: Mr Stuart Roberts, BSc Hons, PGCE



## Spring Term in Year 2

Dear parents/ Carers

We hope you had a brilliant start to 2018. We are off to a flying start in Year 2.

### Our Topics

This term our theme is Europe. We will be identifying the countries of Europe and investigating facts such as landmarks, flags, food, capital cities, climate and landscape. Linking in with our English work on Just So Stories, we will be finding out about animals in Europe. After half term, our topic will be Daring Designers, focusing on designers and engineers.



### Maths

Mathematics sessions will continue to develop the children's number sense; focusing on understanding and applying place value and developing calculation skills. We will also be doing work with money and measure, as well as learning how to read the time. Please support your child at home with this by discussing time with them.

### Homework

Children will continue to receive weekly homework in Year 2. This will be set on a Wednesday and this term will be used to revise the different areas covered this year. It will consist of a GPS (grammar, punctuation and spelling) revision mat, as well as the weekly spellings. We will also be using Mathletics for additional online maths work that can be used to support the children further.



Mathletics

All homework should be completed by the following Tuesday in preparation for weekly spelling. Please help your child to be prepared and give them a prompt to ensure they have their homework diary in school every day.

Children should be reading at least three times a week at home, but where possible encourage your child to read daily, even if it is just five minutes squeezed in. It doesn't have to be their book from school, it could be a magazine, comic, annual or anything else they enjoy.

Alongside their weekly homework we would like children to complete a half termly project. This half term our project will be linked to Europe and details went out on dojo Wednesday 24 January.



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## Spelling

This is an area that we need to ask for your support in. At the moment Year 2 are not reaching the required government level in their spelling. We do daily spelling in school and send 10 spellings home each week, however many children are not making the expected progress. Please help your child to learn spelling rules and words and be able to use them in a sentence. We will give out the High Frequency Word List and Common Exception Word List at Parents' Evening. These are the words that all children across the country are expected to know by the end of Spring Term 2, alongside the rules learnt in class. There are many games and activities that you can do with your child to help them be confident with these words, such as rainbow writing, using a sand tray or creating mnemonics. If you would like any further ideas or help please come and ask. This is an area we need to focus on.

## Swimming & PE

Lisbon and Athens have swimming on Friday and PE on Thursday. They should have trunks or a one piece costume for swimming and blue/black shorts and a white t-shirt for PE. Please encourage your child to take responsibility for ensuring they have the required kit in school. It is suggested that children with earrings leave them out for that day and tie long hair back.



## Water Bottles

Children are allowed to have water bottles in class as it is good for them to keep hydrated throughout the day. However, they should only contain water – no juice please.

## Parent workshops

**On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February**, we would like to invite you to our parent workshops; this half term's focus will be Maths and particularly looking at the four calculations. If you would like to pop in and see how these fit into the new curriculum in year 4 our doors will be open at 9am and again at 6pm.

**Class Dojo-** This term we will be continuing to use Class Dojo as the main means of communication between school and parents; sharing activities and upcoming events on the Class Story. Just a reminder that teachers have quiet hours on Class Dojo and will not reply to messages after 6pm and before 8am or at the weekend.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate in coming in to speak to us. Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss Jarvis & Mrs Scott

