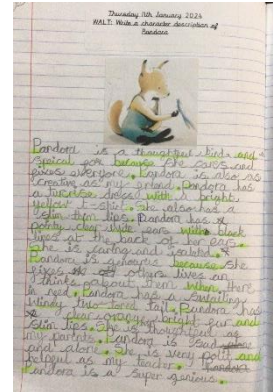


Year Two spring term  
March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

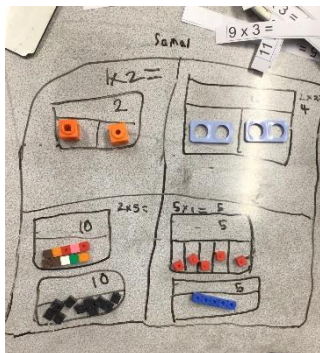
We have had a fantastic, busy spring term filled with lots of exciting activities. The children have worked extremely hard and we have been amazed by the progress and determination they have shown.

Our spring Term started off with our new topic of 'Nurses'. After a very exciting start where we were able to speak to real nurses, midwives, surgeons and GPs we wrote thank you letters thanking them for all their hard work within the NHS and for all the times they have helped us and our families. We also looked at a book called 'Pandora' which was all about the kind fox who helps to fix objects and bring them new life. The children wrote some fantastic descriptions of the character and settings as well as creating their own version of the story too. Finally, we had an exciting session with Peterborough City Council where we learnt all about the importance of recycling our rubbish and the impact it has on our environment. We created fact files teaching others how to recycle and why we need to continue to do this.



During the second part of our term, we have been looking at stories with familiar settings. We started off reading the story of 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' by Ronda and David Armitage where we wrote diary entries from the perspective of the naughty seagulls. We then went on to look at another book within the series 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Cat'. During these sessions, we put ourselves in the character of Hamish the cat and performed some hot-seating and role play from the cat's perspective. We have looked at using lots of exciting vocabulary within our seashores poetry lessons. We compared poems and the use of imagery along with our own experiences. We looked at exciting adjectives, verbs and nouns to write our own poems. Linked with our DT work this term, we also looked at writing instructions. We looked at the features of recipes and created our own recipes for our fruit seaside landscapes.

In Numeracy, we started the term by learning about time. We used clocks to help us find the correct time at different intervals. We then revisited the place value topic and built on our previous knowledge, using number lines to identify 10s and eventually adding our estimations on a number line. We then practised our addition and subtraction methods, introducing exchanging into the calculations. We also learnt about fractions of a shape, exploring the difference between parts and a whole and recognising equal and unequal parts.



During the second part of the term, we counted, compared and ordered numbers. By counting in intervals, this practise was preparation for our multiplication and division topic. We revisited the bar model method to help us answer calculations and word problems. We also looked at measuring mass which involved measuring in grams and

kilograms, millilitres and litres and the application of the four operations to volume and capacity.

In Science, our first topic was animals including humans. We investigated the importance of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food and hygiene. We explored how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals and completed simple food chains. We discussed what should be included in a healthy diet and what should be limited. We enjoyed when ABM came into school and we carried out a healthy eating workshop. We designed and evaluated our own healthy meal.



In the second half of the term, we explored living things and their habitats. We identified that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and described how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants and how they depend on each other. We identified and named a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including micro-habitats. We enjoyed researching, designing and making our own habitats.

We thoroughly enjoyed Science week. We investigated the best materials to protect Humpty Dumpty, investigated which bird feeders the birds preferred, researched and created fact files about Blackbirds and really enjoyed when the 'bird man' came into school.



Within our Geography lessons this term, we have looked at seashores and what we might find there. Firstly, we used our sticky knowledge from last term to remember where in the world the UK is, the countries which make up the UK and the surrounding seas and oceans. We learnt all about physical and human features within a landscape and which we would find at the seaside. We have also used our Maths knowledge when looking at maps and grid references locating different areas of our maps. Finally, we looked at how seashores have changed over the years, comparing what a day at the seaside would be in 2024 to ones which would have happened 100 years ago.



In Art, we explored collage and paper manipulation, taking inspiration from the work of Henri Matisse. Linking with the topic of 'Nurses' we created our own colourful collages that could be seen in a children's hospital ward. We chose to base our artwork on colourful animals and used the paper manipulation techniques to create an eye-catching and uplifting piece of art. We enjoyed learning about different types of paper manipulation and applying them to our final piece. During spring 2, we took inspiration from the artwork of artists such as





L.S.Lowry, JMW Turner and Claude Monet and created our own seascape. Within our seascape artwork we included water colour and collage. We enjoyed looking at different shells and creating beautiful sketches exploring line, pattern and texture.



In Computing, our first topic was robot algorithms and understanding instructions in sequences. We enjoyed learning how to order instructions and make predictions. We then used these skills when designing algorithms, testing those algorithms and then debugging them. In the second half of the term, our topic was programming animations. We began by understanding that sequences of commands have an outcome and made predictions based on our learning. We used and modified

designs to create our own quiz questions in ScratchJr and used blocks of code. Finally, we evaluated our work and make improvements to our programming projects.



In History, we explored how we can find out about the past. We discussed who Florence Nightingale was and why she was important. We explored who Edith Cavell was and why she was important. We discussed why Florence and Edith became significant individuals. We learnt why



Florence and Edith acted the way they did and how they helped to improve hospitals. We enjoyed have some real nurses and doctors join us in school to discuss their roles and asked them many questions to further our knowledge and understanding.

We applied our recent learning of recipes and instruction writing from our Literacy lessons to help us with our DT topic this term. We designed, made and evaluated a seascape made from fresh fruit. The children thoroughly enjoyed making their seascapes and, of course, eating them at the end.

We have covered lots in our PSHE lessons this term. We started off looking at the topic 'Helping someone in need'. Through this topic, we discussed why it is important to help others



and how we can be more helpful both at home and at school. Next, we looked at 'Anger'. We discussed when this emotion might occur and how we help deal with these feelings. We created a poster of ideas which we can use if we start to feel angry about a situation. Lastly, we recapped our very important topic of computer safety and image sharing. We recapped our knowledge of our SMART safety rules and highlight the importance of following the rules when using technology. In Literacy, we also created information leaflets all about internet safety too.

As part of our learning in RE, we explored special books from different religions. We looked at the similarities and differences between different religions and beliefs and found out why some have special books and what they are called. We explored why the books are special and how the books are treated in different religions. In the second half of the term, we explored how different religions celebrate festivals and how festivals are a way of remembering religious events. We enjoyed reflecting on how we celebrate particular festivals with our own families.



In PE, our indoor sessions were dance and fitness. We enjoyed exploring pathways, levels, shapes, directions, speeds and timing. We created wonderful dancing with a secret garden and circus theme. We took part in a range of fitness activities to develop components of fitness. We enjoyed practising skipping and challenging ourselves.



Our outdoor PE sessions have been net and wall games and ball skills. We developed our understanding of the principles of net and wall games such as using the ready position to defend our space and sending the ball away from an opponent to maximise our chances of scoring. We developed our sending and receiving skills including throwing and catching, rolling, kicking, tracking and stopping a ball. We applied our skills individually, in pairs and in small groups and began to organise and self-manage our own activities. We thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the Multi skills sports festival and learnt lots of new skills.

During Music, we used space as stimuli to investigate music. We used our voice and a range of instruments to create a range of sounds, and added dynamics to our work to understand how atmosphere is created. We enjoyed creating short melodies called motifs and worked in groups to create a performance. Our second topic was Traditional Western Stories. Through listening and practical work, we were introduced to the different instruments of an orchestra. We enjoyed playing a piece as if we were following a conductor, as part of a "classroom orchestra".

We have had a wonderful spring term and are really looking forward to seeing what amazing work the children produce in the summer term.

We hope you have a wonderful Easter holiday and will see you after the break.

The Year 2 team.