



Lyminster Primary School

Find Your Roar!

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Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome to the second half term in Year 2: always an exciting time in Key Stage One with our Nativity Play to look forward to!

Our Topic – Fire: Friend or Foe?

Our topic this half term will focus on the Great Fire of London. Through our history studies we will be looking at both the damage it caused and the social benefits that came about as a result of this great disaster. Through our topic work we will find out about London in the 1600s and how it compares to life today. To enhance our learning, we will be taking part in a drama workshop to help bring our topic alive.

Homework

Year Two's homework will continue to include daily reading, weekly spellings and mental maths. In class, we will be changing reading and library books on a weekly basis. The children will always have at least two books to read at home and we ask that you read as much as you can.

Reading

If your child is to achieve expected standards in reading at the end of Key Stage One, it is vital that they practise their reading daily. In order to encourage children to read, we will continue with the class Reading Challenge. Our class target remains **100 or more** daily reading entries in their Reading Diaries in one week, in order to receive a class treat. Unfortunately, the class have not achieved this level of home reading so far this year. This is mainly due to a small number of families failing to read at home at all or recording their reading in the diary. If you are one of these families, please find 5 or 10 minutes each day to listen to your child read. It is so important!

We also celebrate regular reading with reading certificates awarded in celebration assemblies for the number of times the children have read (**50, 100 and 200!**). Please help us to monitor this by numbering each reading entry in your child's reading record, one number per day (rather than one each time they read). It is important that your child's reading books and Reading Diary are in their book bag every day as we like to take every opportunity to read! At home, please encourage your child to read widely across both fiction and non-fiction. **Our reading focus this half-term is to read accurately by blending the sounds in words, especially recognising different ways of spelling the same sound. We will also be working on our fluency skills.** Please continue to read aloud more difficult texts and favourite books to your child as this helps them to hear an expert reader.

We will be re-starting Lyminster's Family Reading sessions on Friday mornings 9.00am - 9.20am. Everyone is welcome and children really look forward to seeing you and their siblings there!

Handwriting

During Year 2, your child is expected to write neatly, using finger spaces, with 'lead-ins' at the start of each lower case letter. They should also be starting to join some of their lower case letters, so please encourage your child to practise at home. Don't forget that you also have free access to our handwriting website:

<https://www.letterjoin.co.uk>. The username is **ak3814** and the password is **home** (swipe capital 'L' on tablets). We





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love seeing all the captions, stories, diaries and fact sheets that your children have made so please keep encouraging any independent or supported writing at home.

Important Dates for your Diary

- **Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th November: Parents' Evenings**
- **Wednesday 6th December: EYFS/KS1 Nativity (more details to follow)**
- **Friday 8th December: Christmas Jumper Day**
- **Tuesday 12th December: KS2 Carol Concert.**
- **Wednesday 13th December: Christmas Fayre**
- **Friday 15th December: Last day of term**

Volunteers

We welcome your support in the classroom, so if you are able to come in and help, please come and see us to discuss this further. As always, we would love to expand our Parent Reading Army!
If you would prefer not to commit to a weekly slot, we can still accommodate you!

Named Clothing

Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled and this includes P.E kit, book bags and water bottles. This really helps and it makes getting changed before and after P.E much easier for the children. P.E kits will go home to be washed at the end of the half term, but please ask if you need them sooner. This half term, Year 2 will have PE on **Monday and Thursdays.**

As winter approaches, we expect children to have a named coat in school every day. They may also bring hats, scarves and gloves, if named.

As always, you are welcome to pop in or phone if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Jobbings and the Year 2 Team

