



Upper Key Stage 2 Newsletter

Spring 1 Edition 2022

Message from Mrs Louden

Welcome to the Spring 1 UKS2 newsletter. Happy New Year, and I hope that you all had a lovely holiday and enjoyed the festive season. I hope that this newsletter will be a reminder of key dates for the diary for this half term and that it will provide you with any other information specifically related to Upper Key Stage 2. I also hope that this newsletter will give you an insight into what your child will be learning this half term, so that when you ask them what they have been doing in school today, you know what, 'I can't remember', really means! If you have any questions or queries, please come in to see me or your child's class teacher in the morning or after school.

Dates for the Diary

- 28th – 30th January: Big Garden Birdwatch
- February: LGBT History Month
- 7th – 14th February: Children's Mental Health Week
- 8th February: Safer Internet Day



Spring 1 Topic

Our Spring 1 topic is 'Down the Pit'. In this topic we will be looking at how and why mining has changed over time, with a focus on coal mining in our local area. We will look at what life was like for miners, and the impact that mining had on families in Wakefield. During this topic we will also look at the impact that politics had on mining. In our English lessons we will be linking our writing to our coal mining topic. Over the first two weeks we have been writing non-chronological reports on coal mining, and we will be moving onto writing diaries from the point of view of a child working in a mine.



UKS2 Email Address

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email (uks2lead@daneroyd.com) with any queries you have. This email address provides a quick way to get in touch with myself so that any enquiries can be dealt with promptly.

Well being

We hold tension in our bodies when we're under pressure, feeling stressed or feeling anxious. Have a go at this activity when you are feeling stressed or anxious and see if it helps you to relieve some of that tension:

Draw the outline of a gingerbread person and add where you feel stress and anxiety in your body - that might be butterflies in your tummy, your legs feeling weak or your heart beating fast. Draw how it feels in each part of your body and use colours or numbers to show where you feel the strongest sensations. Let go of any tension by unclenching your hands, dropping your shoulders, stretching, doing yoga or dancing and draw or write any changes on your picture.

Twitter

Each class has its own Twitter account. We use the class accounts to share news about what the children have been up to. We try to update these as regularly as possible, so make sure you follow your child's class to see all their exciting learning.

@DaneRoydY5
@DaneRoydY5_6
@DaneRoydY6



Notes for parents

- If you would like your child to have milk, please follow the link to order. www.freshpastures.co.uk
- Please order your child's lunch via Hungry Minds prior to coming to school. <https://www.feedinghungryminds.co.uk/>
- A reminder that reading books and reading records are to be returned to school every Tuesday and new ones will be issued every Friday.
- As the weather is cold, winter P.E. kits should still be being worn (black jogging bottoms and black jacket) and children need to bring a coat to school every day.
- Please ensure that all items of clothing are named. We have a growing collection of unnamed lost property in our UKS2 area!

Reading

Reading is a key skill which children will need to access every area of the curriculum, so practicing often is essential to build up their confidence, competence and a love of reading. Even as our children become confident reading independently, it is still highly beneficial to spend some time reading aloud to them. Reading aloud to your children shows them that reading is a pleasure, not a chore. Reading with your child and chatting about books together, also has significant benefits for well-being. In school we spend at least 20 minutes a day reading purely for enjoyment. This involves an adult reading aloud to the children, as well as time for the children to read independently and chat about books with their friends.

Bedrock

Bedrock is an online programme that helps the children learn new vocabulary. The children complete one Bedrock lesson in school each week. Please can you support your child in completing an additional Bedrock lesson at home every week as part of their homework. A lesson takes approximately 20 minutes to complete. Completing two lessons each week will ensure that they make the best progress that they can in learning challenging vocabulary.

PSHE – Dreams and Goals

In PSHE this half term, the children will be considering their dreams and goals and what they will need to do to be able to achieve these goals. They will also be thinking about how we can support each other to achieve our aspirations.