

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Hello and welcome to Year 2! This half term is already whizzing by and the summer holidays feel like a distant memory. The children have been hard at work showing us their amazing skills and sharing their fantastic science facts.

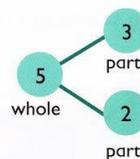
Learning over the last couple of weeks

We started off the year with a 'Sparkly Rights' week where we reintroduced the schools rights a day at a time. The children took part in a variety of activities and thought provoking discussions about what our sparkly rights mean and the responsibilities they come with. We looked at the book 'Only One You' which celebrates how we are all different. The children designed and painted their own rock in the shape of a fish to celebrate their individuality. These fish will be put together to create a stream somewhere in the school ground to remind everyone that 'We may all be different fish but we all swim together'.

We have begun our 'Fizz, Pop, BANG!' topic by looking into the life of Albert Einstein. The children were fascinated to learn how such a genius had difficulties in his childhood and couldn't speak until he was much older (which linked beautifully with our 'right to be different and be me'). They were interested to find out some of the questions Einstein asked throughout his life and how he went about trying to find the answers. The children were enthralled by the scientific language and set about writing lots of questions of their own which they are hoping to find out the answers to.

The children have loved learning about Space! You may have heard them singing a particularly catchy song which is helping them to remember the order of the planets. They have had the opportunity to create the solar system in the front playground and explore how the planets rotate on their axis and orbit the sun. Taking the facts they have learnt about each planet, the children have been making their own fact planets to display in the classroom and have also been taking part in a planet quiz.

In maths we have been recapping place value to ensure children are secure before moving on to using and applying their skills. The children have been exploring number through a variety of activities such as plotting numbers on a number line, making a 2 digit number using concrete resources and using the part whole method (see diagram below).



Here is a game to help your children practise understanding the value of the tens and ones in a 2 digit number.

<http://www.ictgames.com/LIFEGUARDS.html>

Learning in the next couple of weeks

Over the next couple of weeks, the children will be using the information they have learnt about Einstein and Space to create a leaflet. They will be learning how to create simple sentences and begin to proofread and edit their own work.

In art, we are going to be focussing on the artist Georges Seurat who was famous for pointillism (the art of creating pictures by using dots).

In science, the children will be exploring and learning about the effects of gravity through various investigations.

In maths, we will be continuing to build on place value and, using the skills we have learnt, practise adding and subtracting.

Other notes:

- Every Wednesday afternoon the children have Multiskills. Please make sure your child has plimsolls or trainers and jogging bottoms in school as this will sometimes take place outside.
- Also a reminder that earrings should be taken out for PE and swimming. (Squirrels on Tuesday and Wednesday and Badgers on Wednesday and Thursday).

Many thanks for your continued support.

The Year 2 Team