



January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you had an enjoyable holiday period.

Learning

In **English** we are beginning by reading *The Dragon Machine* by Helen Ward. We will then move on to exploring fairy tales and writing recounts. Towards the end of the term, we will be reading poetry and writing instructions linked to our design and technology learning.



In **Maths** we are starting the term with a unit on 'Telling the Time'. We will be covering time up to 5-minute intervals. Please do practise with the children at home! Our **Science** topic will be materials.



In **Reading** the children will continue doing some small-group reading and some whole-class reading. We will be exploring a range of diverse and interesting texts with the children including: *Pip and Egg* by Alex Latimer, *Where Do Clothes Come From?* By Christine Butterworth, *The Bear & The Piano* by David Litchfield and *Coming to England* by Floella Benjamin.

This term years 2 to 6 will all be teaching a geography unit. We have redesigned our geography curriculum this year, and we will soon be able to share with you the new "Knowledge Organiser" for our unit of learning. You can read more about this in the WHPS Weekly published on 24th January. Year 2's unit is **Journey Along a River**, and will involve learning about London, the River Thames and Cairo and the River Nile.

You can find out more about all of our school curriculum by visiting the ["Our Curriculum > Y1 to Y6 curriculum"](#) section on the new school website.

Home Learning

We will continue to send homework each Wednesday.

Homework Set	Spelling Quiz
Wednesday	Wednesday



The children will bring home:

- 10 spelling to practise at home
- Handwriting
- A maths revision sheet with answers (these do not need to be returned, but if you feel it motivates your child to show the teacher, feel free to return it to school)

In addition to weekly homework, we expect all children to read for at least 15-20 minutes each day. Reading is a fundamental part of the children's development and it has a positive impact on comprehension skills, writing, maths and many other subjects. Children should complete their reading records to evidence the reading they have done and bring these to school every day where they will be checked by your child's teacher. The children will also earn stickers on their bookmark every time they read which will result in certificates and even brand new books to keep!

Uniform and PE Lessons

Make-up and jewellery, with the exception of stud ear-rings and a watch are not allowed. All children are expected to wear full school uniform at all times. PE for Year 2 will be on a Wednesday. Children will need to come to school wearing a PE kit and a pair of trainers. If there is a medical reason that your child is unable to do PE please send in a signed note or contact the office.

We would like to remind you that school and learning starts at **9:00**. The gates will be open at 8:50. The school day ends at 3:30.

We look forward to continuing working with both you and your children. If you should have any general questions regarding the year ahead, please do not hesitate to contact us through year2@westhampstead.camden.sch.uk

Hannah Bones, Alex Efford and Neil Thompson