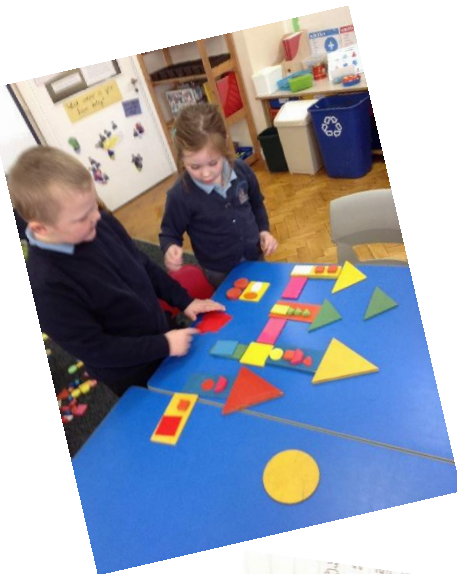


It was wonderful seeing everyone back at school on Monday morning and hearing all about the adventures you have had over the Christmas break. We dived straight into our new topic - Eureka! - last week, by thinking about *what* an inventor is and *why* people invent things. We invented our own products and pitched them, Dragon's Den style, to the rest of the class. Over the coming weeks we are going to be learning about the history of flight and comparing aeroplanes throughout history. We will also be thinking about how aeroplanes have changed our lives. After half term, we are heading to the Discovery Museum in Newcastle for a Transport Past and Present workshop to see how various transportation inventions have developed. More details will be given closer to the time.



In maths this half term, we are learning about shape, then we will be moving on to multiplication and division. We are fast becoming experts in 2D shapes; I was very impressed with the prior knowledge of the Year 1 children! To consolidate our learning at home, you could ask your child to find 2D/3D shapes in 'real life' e.g. cereal boxes, footballs etc., and ask them to find how many sides/corners/faces/edges/vertices they have.

Year 2 children have started using the TT Rockstars app on the iPads in school in order to improve their times table knowledge. They are also encouraged to use this app at home. They will be set 1 table per half term (5x for Spring 1, 2x for Spring 2, 10x for Summer 1 and 3x for Summer 2). Usernames and passwords should be in the front/back of your child's reading record, but if not, let me know and I can send them home again.

Help at Home

As always, reading with your child would benefit them immensely, not only in their reading ability, but also with their writing and their spoken language. Please try to read as often as possible with your child and write it in their reading record.

Please make sure your child can undress and dress themselves quickly, preferably being able to tie their own shoe laces. We are spending a lot of lesson time waiting for children to change for PE, as it takes them so long.



Other news

Horrid Henry Club got off to a great start last Monday. We thought up alliterative names for ourselves, as well as a group name (the Evil Ellingham Gang) and pranked Mrs. Lakey, Mrs. Swinbank, Mrs. Rutter, Miss. Foster and Phil with very sour sweets!

We have an author, Alan Windram, coming into school on Thursday 23rd January. Signed copies of his books will be available to purchase on the day at a cost of £5 each; further information can be found on the orange letter that went home on Friday.

