Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope you all had a fabulous Christmas and a wonderful New Year celebration. Mrs Issitt and I would like to say a big thank you for all your kind and generous words, cards and gifts at the end of last term. They were all greatly appreciated!

Mrs Issitt is now back in class and will usually teach whenever Miss Aldridge is out or has her non-contact time.

Our main topic this half term is The Great Fire of London. As part of this work we will be recreating Pudding Lane (out of boxes) and the Great Fire on our visit to Menwith Hill Fire Station! A letter with further details will follow nearer the time. If you have any fire engines etc or suitable dressing up costumes at home, please do send them in if you are happy to do so. In other subject areas we will be learning all about the work of Henry Moore and creating our own sculptures, asking the big question Who is a Christian and what do they believe?, and continuing our work on Growth Mindset and using PurpleMash in Computing.

Our PE this half term is football skills with Mr Yeoman and dance and gymnastics with Miss Aldridge or Mrs Issitt. So your child will need both an indoor and outdoor PE kit, complete with waterproof trainers, at school all week as lessons can be weather dependant and often switched around! Thank you.

We will continue to have daily phonics / spellings and handwriting sessions. Children in Year 2 will continue to receive a list of spellings to practise at home each week ready for a quick quiz the following Monday morning. For your child in EYFS or Year 1, please spend a few minutes each evening practising the cards in your child’s Phonics Pack and continue to read together whenever possible. We are still practising letter names too, so please sing alphabet songs to your heart’s content!

**Maths At Home**

As well as continuing to work on Maths Passports, I would be really grateful if you could help your child at home with practising telling the time and recognising and using money. Obviously we will be studying these in class, but as they are real ‘skills for life’ they need constant revisiting. For your guidance, National Curriculum expectations are that:

Reception children

- use everyday language to talk about time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems.

Year 1 children:

- recognise and know the value of different denominations of coins and notes
- sequence events in chronological order using language [for example, before and after, next, first, today, yesterday, tomorrow, morning, afternoon and evening]
recognise and use language relating to dates, including days of the week, weeks, months and years

• tell the time to the hour and half past the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times.

Year 2 children:

• recognise and use symbols for pounds (£) and pence (p); combine amounts to make a particular value
• find different combinations of coins that equal the same amounts of money
• solve simple problems in a practical context involving addition and subtraction of money of the same unit, including giving change
• compare and sequence intervals of time
• tell and write the time to five minutes, including quarter past/to the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times
• know the number of minutes in an hour and the number of hours in a day

Many thanks for your support in this. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you would like any further information.

**Diary Dates**

Tuesday 28th January - Class visit to Menwith Hill Fire Station

Friday 31st January - Miss A out in the morning. Mrs Issitt teaching.

Tuesday 4th February - Miss A out in the afternoon. Mrs Issitt teaching.

Friday 7th February - Football Inspire Workshop with Mr Yeoman

Tuesday 11th February - Safer Internet Day (further details will follow)

Friday 14th February - Sharing Assembly

Friday 14th February - Break up for Half Term

Tuesday 25th February - Miss A out all day

Tuesday 3rd March - Parents Evening

Wednesday 4th March - Miss A out in the morning (seems to be out a lot!)

Thursday 5th March - Whole school visit to Leeds (details to follow nearer the time)

If you would like to catch up with what we have been doing in class, please see either of us on the playground before or after school for a chat, or come to our weekly Friday certificate assembly at 9.00 am.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss Aldridge and Mrs Issitt