



Year 2 Class

Autumn Newsletter



A very warm welcome to all our parents and carers of Year 2 children. We are really looking forward to meeting you and having an exciting Autumn Term with your children. Mrs Hope will be joining us as the class teaching assistant, to support with your child's learning.

PE

Our PE days this term are **Monday** and **Friday**. Children should wear full uniform to school and bring their PE kits with them. Trainers will need to be brought to school every day, to be worn during the Daily Mile.



We will start the Autumn Term by developing our gross motor skills. We will also be exploring, remembering, repeating and linking a range of actions with coordination, control and an awareness of the expressive qualities of dance.

Phonics and English



In English, we will be starting our work on the whole school text, 'The Story Machine', where children will be exploring the illustrations within the book and working towards writing their own stories about something they have discovered. During the term, we will use a variety of engaging texts to inspire and use as a model to support our vocabulary development and sentence construction. We will be retelling stories, writing instructions, reports, recounts and letters. A Year 2 writer should be able to write different kinds of sentences, including expanded noun phrases to add detail and use conjunctions to link ideas within a sentence. They should consistently use past and present tense verbs within a piece of writing, and include capital letters, full stops, exclamation marks and commas in lists accurately.

Whole class guided reading will replace phonics for many of the children. They will meet a range of texts over the year and use questioning to build their comprehension and inference skills. Some children will work in small phonics groups every day to continue building their banks of sounds and words that they know, as they work towards building fluency and speed.

Reading

Please continue to support your child, to encourage a love for reading. They will continue to bring a reading book home each week linked to their current phonics level or book band. **We expect them** to read out loud to an adult for **at least 15 minutes each evening**. A year 2 reader should be able to read aloud with fluency and expression, using punctuation to pause when necessary and should have the ability to talk with confidence about what they have read. You can support your child by taking turns to read the book. It is really important that you are asking questions about what the children are reading to ensure that they are comprehending the text. These questions could be about the characters or the setting. Reading is the starting point of all learning and developing your child's reading confidence could help them access all areas of the curriculum and enable them to make good progress in their learning. Please ensure reading books are brought to school every day.

Maths

In Maths, we will be focusing on number. Children will explore how to represent numbers, partition and regroup numbers up to 100. They will practise adding and subtracting mentally, make amounts with money and read simple scales. A Year 2 mathematician should be able to read, write and compare numbers to 100, count in steps of 2, 3, 5 and 10 forwards and backwards. They should be able to represent their thinking using different resources and diagrams and recognise the place value of each digit in a 2-digit number. Counting together and playing board games will help support your child in their learning. It is essential that every child becomes fluent in their times tables and the only way to secure them is through practice. In Year 2, our focus will be 2x, 5x and 10x tables. To help with their recall of these times tables, children should be practicing on TT Rockstars every day for a minimum of three minutes. If your child is unable to access TT Rockstars at home, please let me know and I will ensure that they can have access at school.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>.

Science



This term, we will be learning about the use of everyday materials. The children will identify different materials in their local environment, consider the properties of materials and study the effects of plastic pollution. They will also have the opportunity to conduct a range of investigations, linked to everyday materials.

Later in the term, the children will learn about animals and their survival. They will think about the importance of hygiene, the basic requirements for all living animals to survive and the changes animals go through as they grow up. The children will also have the opportunity to consider the importance of exercise and a balanced diet, for their own health and well-being.

History

During the first part of the Autumn Term, we will be learning about current and historical kings and queens of Britain. Children will be learning a range of new vocabulary, which they will be able to use to explain their opinions of the power of monarchs and historical battles



We will also be learning about London in 1666, by investigating the Great Fire of London. We will learn about how the fire began and spread so quickly, the damage it caused and how London changed following the fire.

PSHE



During our PSHE lessons, the children will have the opportunity to think about and discuss 'What it is to be me in my world'. We will share our hopes and fears and think about our rights and responsibilities as we develop our own learning behaviours and class learning culture. In the second half term, we looking at "Celebrating Difference" and how we fit in to the world around us.

Art

In Art, the children will be developing their ability to tell a story through drawing. It includes lessons on creating textures, observational drawing, character expression, and storytelling through illustrations, enhancing pupils' mark-making techniques, observational skills, and imagination in art. After half term, we will look at structures and build a chair for baby bear.



Computing



In Computing, we will be exploring self-image and identity, online relationships and online reputations. These lessons will be taught by Mr Connolly.

RE

In RE we will be exploring a range of questions. In the first half-term we will be exploring the question, 'Why do we need to give thanks?' We will be looking at Hindus and Christians' response to this question and comparing the two religions.



In the second half-term, we will be exploring the questions, 'What do candles mean to people?' We will then consider a range of religions and the importance of candles in their practice. This will include learning about the religious festival, Diwali.

Homework

As well as reading daily and practicing times tables, a new list of spellings will be handed out, every Monday, for your children to practise at home. This will be linked to the spelling pattern being taught in class that week.

Every Friday, we will be setting an Essential Maths activity, which can be found in your child's homework book. This activity will help review the week's lessons and support the children to consolidate their learning.

We are always happy to answer any queries (preferably at the end of the day once all the children have been dismissed). I look forward to getting to know new faces and cannot wait for the term ahead!

Many thanks,
Miss Hare
Year 2 Class Teacher