

Year 2 Newsletter - Autumn Term 1

Hello and welcome to Year 2!

We hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday! It has been fantastic starting to get to know the children this week and we are all very excited for the year ahead.

The Year 2 team this year will be Mrs Walsh and Mrs Dixon as class teachers supported by our HLTA Miss McNab, who will also lead our intervention support work in phonics and early reading skills.

We have put together an information pack for Year 2 parents which is available on the Year 2 Home Learning page on the school website but here is a round up of some of the most important information to note:

P.E.

Our PE days this term will be Monday and Friday. The children should have their full PE kit in school and we will send it home at the end of each half term.

Please make sure your child is not wearing earrings on PE days. Removing/covering earrings is a health and safety requirement and delays the start of the lesson.

Reading

We will continue to use the Bug Club digital reading scheme in Year 2. Your child's log in details are on the front of their reading record. If you have any difficulties accessing the system, please let us know and we will help you log in.

Books are allocated to your child that correspond with the stage of their learning in phonics. At this age, regular but short read aloud practises with an adult are the best way to build reading skills.

We highly recommend any and all reading for pleasure alongside decoding practise using the Bug Club digital scheme. It is not possible to read too much and fluency in reading correlates directly with increased confidence in learning across the curriculum.

Spellings

Each week we will teach a new spelling pattern and share a list of words that include the rule we are learning. We will also teach "challenge words" which are spellings that children often find tricky because phonic patterns don't fit. These words need to be learned off by heart.

Times Tables

By the end of Year 2 children need to know by heart their 2, 5 and 10 times tables so we will get started practising these in class from our first week. Some children pick these up quickly but if your child finds memorisation difficult, you might want to practise these at home. We have shared useful resources on the Year 2 home learning page of the school website.

Show & Tell

We love to hear about the children's hobbies and home lives. Show & Tell is also terrific way to build children's confidence speaking up in front of their peers. Please use your child's Class Dojo profile to share achievements and experiences that your child might want to share with their friends.

We will use Class Dojo stories to share information and updates throughout the year and in the meantime, if you have any questions, please just ask!

Best wishes,
Mrs Walsh & Mrs Dixon

Year 2 Curriculum Web - Autumn Term 1

PE

We will do PE twice a week – On Monday with specialist sports teacher Mr Dowson and on a Thursday with NUFC Foundation. We finish the week with Fit Friday too!

RE/PSHE

Our first task in PSHE this year is to discuss and then agree on what will make our classroom a great place to be. We will also think about ways in which we are the same as and different to others.

In RE we will begin by discussing people who are special to us. We will then explore Hinduism, looking specifically at the Hindu Gods and festivals.

ICT

This term we will be getting to grips with typing so we can log into our systems and create content in our Class Dojo profiles.

DT / ART

We will take inspiration from the artist Jan Griffier and his work 'The Great Fire of London'. We will design our own unique fire painting.



LITERACY

We will start the year by looking at the features of a diary, and we will use our imaginations to write as if we were alive during the Great Fire of London. We will recap the basics of sentence punctuation and build our stamina to write independently for longer periods.

After that, we will move on to some extended creative writing inspired by *The Bear and the Piano* by David Litchfield.

Important parts of English grammar we will look at include: identifying nouns, adjectives and verbs. We will also begin to use a range of conjunctions to form extended sentences.

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Fire! Fire!



MATHEMATICS

We will take time during the first term of the year to thoroughly investigate Place Value. We will spend time practising counting and ordering objects to 100 as well as reading and writing those numbers in numerals and words. We will learn about breaking up larger numbers into tens and ones and the range of different ways we can represent that relationship e.g. with objects, using a bar model, a part-part-whole model or a place value chart.

We will also begin to tackle step counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and investigate the addition and subtraction bonds to 20 or "Fact Families" as we call them.

SCIENCE

On our first mission to become a 'Scientific Superstar' we will name, identify and explore the uses of everyday materials. A specific focus will be to distinguish between an object and a material.

We will also explore the suitability of materials, looking closely at their properties. We will identify materials for different objects and will focus on being able to explain why they are suitable.

Throughout this unit of work, we will be working scientifically, carrying out an investigation and applying our findings by designing an object for a specific purpose.

HISTORY

We will be travelling back in time to discover what London was like in 1666 and finding out what happened in the Great Fire of London.

GEOGRAPHY

We will be exploring the world's continents and oceans, describing their position in relation to each other using our compass points.



We will also use maps to name and locate the UK's countries and capitals.