

Class 2 Newsletter – Autumn Term 2020

Monday 7th September 2020

Dear Parents and Children,

Firstly, we would like to welcome you to Year 2! We hope you had a lovely summer break and the children are excited about being back at school. At this time, we appreciate that both you and the children may be experiencing a range of emotions so please don't hesitate to contact us if we can support you in any way. This year, Year 2 is taught by Mrs Lincoln on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and alternate Wednesday afternoons. Ms Benson will teach Class 2 on Thursday and Friday and alternate Wednesday afternoons. Our class is also supported by Mrs Gascoyne, Mrs Heath and Ms Laur-Baker. Mrs Middleton will be leading the music sessions this term.

Our topic this term will be 'Light and Fire'. The children will be exploring light and shadows, electricity and materials in Science. Before half term, we will be investigating how different artists use colour in Art, later we will be making our own vehicles in Design and Technology. Nearer the time, the children may be asked to bring in a shoe box (with a lid, preferably not shiny) for this so if you have some at home, please save them! Our History topics are the Gunpowder Plot and Great Fire of London and our Geography learning will involve naming the continents, oceans and the capital cities around the UK. In RE, we will be looking at the story of creation, the importance of light in different religions and then how Christians prepare for Christmas. To begin with, PE activities will centre on tennis and building fitness and stamina in preparation for a potential virtual skipping event later in the term. After half term, we will be doing dance and hockey. In Music, the children will be exploring rhythm and pulse. Finally, in Computing, we will be covering a range of skills, including e-safety and relationships on-line and in PSHEe we will be looking at friendships. If you or anyone you know would be able to enrich our topic in any way this term, either virtually or by providing resources, we would be very grateful. For further information about what the children will be covering, please see the topic web.

Active and outdoor learning - PE will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and lessons will take place outside as much as possible. On PE days, children should come to school wearing their PE kit. As the weather cools, this should be tracksuit bottoms, sweatshirts and trainers. For safety reasons, long hair must be tied back, jewellery should not be worn and earrings must be removed. Please ensure your child has a jumper without a hood to wear. In addition to our timetabled PE lessons, Year 2 will take regular breaks for physical activity and enjoy other active lessons. We will endeavour to complete a 'Daily Mile' or 'Daily Skip' as a class most days. We also hope to regularly use the school nature space at some point this term. We cannot confirm whether this will be as a weekly slot or in a block of time and will send out more information when this becomes available.

Reading - In Year 2, reading remains an important part of your child's homework. Children should read for approximately 10-15 minutes every day. This time can include comprehension questions and discussion about the text, as well as reading the book itself. We would be grateful if you could practise good hand hygiene before reading with your child; washing or sanitising yours and your child's hands before handling books and reading records and storing books in a plastic wallet when they are not being read. This mirrors our classroom practise. Class time will be set aside for changing books on a Monday and Thursday. This will allow us to quarantine the books safely before sending them home to another family. Please add brief comments to your child's Reading Record to show they have been reading regularly at home. If your child has not finished their book, please could you record the page they have got up to in their Reading Record. If your child is reading a book from home, please also record this.

Homework - In addition to reading, a short maths task will be set on a Monday and handed in the following Monday. This task should be completed using pencil in your child's orange homework book. The tasks set should each take approximately 15-20 minutes.

Dates for your Diary – This year, 'Meet the Teacher' information will be uploaded on the website on **Tuesday 8th September**. Our class assembly will be recorded this half term and will be shared with the school and available for you to watch on **Friday 9th October**. There will be a whole school virtual Harvest festival on **Thursday 24th October**. More details about this will follow. Look out for other dates affecting the whole school on the website and in the weekly newsletter.

Finally, please do not hesitate to speak to us if you require any further information. We look forward to an enjoyable term ahead!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Lincoln and Ms Benson