

Year 2 Newsletter – Autumn 1

Welcome

My name is Mrs Smith and I look forward to supporting your child in Year 2. Other adults working alongside me include Mrs May-Madden, Miss Hudgill and Mrs Bradshaw. Any questions please don't hesitate to ask!

Phonics and Reading

There will be a huge emphasis on reading and phonics in our class. Children will be taught in specific reading lessons at their level for 3 days of the week.

Your support in reading at home is invaluable, so we want to hear about books you and your child have read and enjoyed.

Recommended reads:

At this point in the year, we are focusing on picture books and short stories. Children always enjoy stories written by Julia Donaldson. There are the old favourites like Snail and the Whale, as well as new titles written more recently.

Phonics



Writing

In the first part of the Autumn Term, we are going to be looking at adventure stories. We will think about types of characters and settings within a range of short stories.

Much of our work will be linked to vocabulary and children will be taught how to select exciting and ambitious words. They will then be taught the different ways to build sentences, and how to apply a range of punctuation to their writing. Kinetic letters handwriting will remain a key focus; incorporating correct pencil grip, starting, and finishing points and correct letter formation.



Maths

Number and Place Value is the first unit to be covered, looking at number words and digits and the way the number system is used. We look at number bonds to 10 and then to 20 and the value of the numbers. This will include odd and even numbers, smallest and greatest, as well as an understanding of how to compare numbers and order them according to their value.

Children will develop their understanding of the value of digits within a number as we progress onto numbers up to 100. The value of numbers is understood with a growing knowledge of Ten's and Ones. Children will work using a variety of maths resources to aid their understanding.

Rock Star Maths takes place daily in our Maths lesson where children will practise their skills in number bonds to a background of music.



Science

We will be learning about Living Things including Humans. This will include understanding the range of processes that every living animal has to go through; sensitivity, movement, growth, reproduction excretion and nutrition.



Computing

The children will develop their ability to log on to the sites we use in school, and be shown how to access these with websites and logins to use at home. The first unit of work is called Coding – creating a set of instructions for the computer to follow. Alongside this we will also look at Online Safety, using the internet safely.



Art – Map it Out

Children will be using images of maps as a stimulus for their Artwork this term. Experiment in sketchbooks, using drawing to record ideas. Children will Use hands and tools with confidence when cutting, shaping, and joining paper, card, and malleable materials.



History

Children will be learning about Explorers from around the world. They will compare the personal experiences of Sacagawea and Michael Collins.



Music

Our unit for this term is called Hands, Feet, Heart. We will learn to listen and appraise a number of pieces music together, before learning and performing a number of songs as a class. Children will develop their understanding of key musical vocabulary such as; chorus, verse, rythmn and pitch.



PE – Wednesday and Friday

Children will have 2 separate lessons during the week. For the first session children will be taking part in outdoor activities such as orienteering later in the week the focus will be on football skills. They will be taught key skills in both elements and then encouraged to work individually, and as part of a team.



PSHE

Being Me - This unit explores children as individuals, looking at themselves and recognising what makes them special. We look at how every person has their own qualities, and this is what makes us all unique.



RE

Christianity - What did Jesus teach?

Focusing on Believing and Behaving, we are learning to re-tell Bible stories that show kindness, and to explore how this makes Christians behave towards other people.



Enrichment

We will be making the most of our outdoor environment and learning some key skills used by 'real explorers' – Map reading, orienteering and survival skills.

This will give us a great opportunity to further our understanding and maybe even sit around our school campfire!



Homework Project



Think about all the different equipment that an explorer might use...

Choose an item to make using things which can be found at home in your recycling bin, boxes tubes, packets, bottles etc. It might be a telescope, binoculars, a camera, or any other item you can think of. There is no rush – the deadline will be the week before half term so get thinking and be as creative as you can be!



Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities.



Times Tables Rockstars

All children will be provided with their own log in details so you can access at home.



Spelling Shed

All children will be provided with their own log in details so you can access at home.



Rewards

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



Class information

Class Teacher: Mrs Smith

Teaching Assistants: Mrs May-Madden, Miss Hudgill and Mrs Bradshaw.

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.



**Dates for the diary!
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Monday 4th September – Training Day

W/B Monday 11th September - Reception children start- in either am or pm.

Monday 18th September – Y6 Condoover Trip

W/B 18th September – Reception children start full time

Tuesday 26th September – Parents Phonics Workshops 2.00pm & 2.30pm

Thursday 28th September – Parents Phonics Workshops 9.00am & 9.30am

Tuesday 3rd October – Parents Maths Workshops 2.00pm & 2.30pm

Thursday 5th October – Parents Maths Workshops 9.00am & 9.30am

Tuesday 10th October - Parents Evening - 4pm -7pm

Wednesday 11th October - Parents Evening – 3.30pm - 6pm

Wednesday 11th October – Whole school panto – Jack & Beanstalk

W/B 16th October – Parents' Open Sessions (Reading) – days and timings tbc

Thursday 19th October school closes to pupils for Half Term

Friday 20th October – Training Day