

Year 2 Class Newsletter



Welcome to Year 2!

AUTUMN TERM

I hope you all enjoyed the summer holidays and feel refreshed for the year ahead. The children have settled back into school life really well and are looking forward to an exciting year!

This newsletter contains useful information about what you should expect from the autumn term. If at any time you have any questions or you are unsure of anything please ask. We are always happy to speak to you, however, if we are unable to see you at the beginning of the day, please make an appointment to meet at a mutually convenient time.

Autumn overview

This term our topic is 'FIRE! FIRE!' It is a history based topic about the Great Fire of London in 1666. We will be finding out why the fire started, how it spread, what the damage was and how it changed the design of building streets in London forever. We will compare fire-fighting equipment from 1666 with today's and experience first-hand what today's fire fighters use by visiting our local fire station. Wherever possible, we endeavor to make links across the curriculum.

Maths

The main areas of focus are listed below. In addition, we practise our 2, 5 and 10 times tables daily in class. The main objectives for this term are:

- Count to at least 100
- Order numbers
- Count forwards & backwards in ones or tens
- Recognise odd & even numbers
- Know by heart the 10s, 2s and 5s times tables
- Double and halve numbers
- Find coin values up to £1
- Measure length, weight, capacity
- Solve simple problems



Important reminders!

- Please make sure your child's belongings are clearly named. Many items get lost because we cannot find the owner.
- Reading books need to be in school every day and please remember to sign your child's Reading Record.
- Please make sure any money sent into school is in a named envelope.
- Please make sure your child has their named PE kit in school every day.
- Children will receive spellings on a Tuesday that they need to practise for the following Monday.



Our motto is:

Alta Pete – Aim High

"The primary aim of the school is to help each pupil reach his or her full potential so that they may develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge to take full advantage of the opportunities available in their future lives."

English

Books: In English the children will be reading about the Fire of London using information books and writing their own accounts of the fire. They will learn about the different organisational features of non-fiction texts such as alphabetical order, headings, diagrams, captions, and key words. Later, they will learn about a range of poetry styles.

Grammar and sentence structure: Children should be able to write sentences with capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. More advanced writing will include conjunctions such as 'and, so, but, because' as well as interesting detail to engage the reader. They need to be clear about the difference between a noun, verb, adjective, adverb, command, statement, exclamation and question.

Spelling: Words will be given each week linked to the daily phonics lessons. Spelling will be given out on Tuesday and the children tested on the following Monday.

Punctuation: Accurate use of punctuation is essential for the reader to be able to read fluently. The punctuation expected in Year 2 is:

- Consistent use of full stops at the end of each sentence and correct use of capital letters,
- Question marks,
- Exclamation marks,
- Commas in a list.

Handwriting: It is vital that children form their letters correctly in order for them to be able to join up legibly. During handwriting sessions, we will be concentrating on the correct formation of lower and upper case letters and, for those who can form their letters properly, to join letters in words.

Please support your child with following the school's handwriting style.

Reading is an integral part of our school day. As well as a daily designated class reading time the children will access a wide range of texts throughout the day. They will be given opportunities to read texts during shared teaching, as part of a small group and individually. Your child will read with an adult in school at least once a week. It is important that your child brings their reading book into school every day so that we can maximise additional opportunities for them to read. Please encourage your child to read every day at home and make it a special time together. Remember little and often is the best way to develop a love for reading! Please sign the reading record when you have read with your child. Thank you.



Science This term the children will be learning about animals, including humans. The topic will include: - all animals have offspring, basic needs for survival, the importance of exercise and eating a range of food groups to remain healthy, the value and dangers of medicines.



Foundation Subjects

We are learning about belonging to different faith groups, particularly Christianity. Leading up to Christmas the focus will be on the birth of Jesus, the highlight of which will be the Key Stage 1 Nativity production. More about that soon! The children will learn a range of songs to entertain you during their Music lessons.

PE This term the children will be learning basic skills, games and dance. Please ensure that PE kit is left in school at all times and is clearly labelled with your child's name.

Homework

Reading – We cannot overstress the importance of listening to your child read every day. Please always sign and date the reading record so your child can receive a sticker towards a reading certificate.

Spelling – Words will be sent home on a Tuesday and the children will be tested the following Monday.

Maths – Please try to login to Mathletics three times a week. The children love this program and it will support what they have been learning in school.

Topic projects – There will be two projects this term. The first one is the Fire of London and the second is Christmas. A separate letter will be sent home with detailed information.

Parent helpers We appreciate any offers of help in the classroom, particularly to hear readers however short or long your free time might be. Please speak to us if you can assist.

We hope you have found this information a useful insight into the term ahead and thank you for your continuing support.

The Year Two team – Mrs Cook and Miss Plant (class teachers), Miss Loftus and Mrs Lynch (teaching assistants)