

# Class 2 Newsletter

Autumn 1 2022

## Dear Parents

**Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely Summer holiday. We are very excited about working with your children once again and being part of this step on their learning journey.**

**I am sure we will get to know each other very quickly, which I am excited about! Year 2 are taught by Miss Evans. Miss Evans' PPA time will be covered by Miss Maloney for a full day on Wednesdays.**

**We will be supported in Year Two by Mrs Wibberly and Miss Munir.**

Our new topic for the first half term is called: 'Was it fun to be a Victorian Child?'. Within this topic we will be discussing and celebrating some amazing British authors. We will also be looking into Victorian schooling and home life, Victorian Britain, inventions and Queen Victoria herself! We will also look at some non-fiction writing, in English, linked to the Queen and her coronation and creative/diary writing through the story 'Leather shoe Charlie' and 'Daisy saves the Day'. This will be delivered as a write stuff unit and the children will be working hard on writing their own versions. To complement our vocabulary development in Year Two we will be introducing new vocabulary daily and adding these to our 'Word Wall'.

## Phonics/Reading

Every pupil will take part in a Guided Reading activity at least once per fortnight. This year we are also going to be doing whole class guided reading sessions as part of our English lessons.

We also endeavour to listen to pupils read once a week one-to-one. This could be with a teacher, teaching assistant, adult helper or reading buddy. The whole curriculum in Year Two is geared around the children accessing activities with greater independence. This therefore means they are expected to read instructions, questions, signs, text on the walls, on worksheets, in textbooks etc multiple times

constantly practising reading for a purpose. Children will take part in Read, Write Inc. sessions which they will bring a book home every Wednesday. This will help the children become secure in the sounds they are learning, becoming familiar with the vocabulary used. These will be returned to school every Monday. Once the children have been issued with a book and a reading record they can start to record their home reading in these. Please ensure reading records are in school every day. At least ten minutes of reading each evening would be a good target. There is a section in the reading record for the children to write about a book they have read, during the week. Children could comment on what they liked, disliked, what the story reminded them of, what they thought of the author's style etc.

As an attempt to encourage children to 'read for pleasure' in Year 2, I will be introducing a system named 'Rainbow Readers'. The children will be given a different task to complete each week, which will reflect a book they have chosen. Every time a task is completed the children receive a colour at the end of the week, the aim being they create a rainbow by the end of term. The emphasis on these tasks is to try and encourage children to read and discuss books independently.

## Spellings at Home

For now, we are testing the children on the common exception words from year 1 as this should give us a 'benchmark' as to where we can start. Spellings will be given weekly on a Wednesday and also tested on a Wednesday, this will start from the 14<sup>th</sup> September.

As much as we can, we intend to include the phonics sounds and spellings within our English plans too so that the phonic or spelling patterns become embedded quickly.

## MATHS

Our

work in Maths this half term will focus on place value and ordering numbers, counting on and back in 10s from any number to 100, addition and subtraction, money and fractions. We will also be introduced to counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. Shortly, we will be moving onto our times tables, once the initial few weeks have begun.

In the Autumn term our 'Quick Mental Maths' and 'Mad Minutes' will focus on:

- Recall all number bonds to and within 10 off by heart and use these to reason with and calculate bonds to and within 20.
- All doubles and halves from double 1 to double 20 / half of 2 to half of 40

## SCIENCE

During science (Wednesday afternoons) we will be looking at materials and investigating the book 'Traction man is here.' Through this we will investigate man-made and natural materials we will look at the properties and investigate the correct materials for certain jobs. We will be looking at how objects and materials can be changed (twisting, stretching etc). Please talk to your children about materials around the house and the outside environment.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This half term we will be learning about why The Bible is such a special book.

## PE

**\*PE this term will be on a Tuesday and Friday.**

All children need an interchangeable kit for indoor and outdoor use depending on the weather. Children need pumps and outdoor trainers. Please ensure everything has a name in. This term sees us learning gymnastics, balance, coordination and agility.

## BEHAVIOUR AND REWARDS

We do expect a lot of children in Year Two and you may feel the jump from Year One to be quite a significant one. Although our expectations are high, we know the children will rise to them and thrive in Year Two. As part of our PSHE learning we have discussed these expectations and also the rewards which the children will accrue. The children will still receive team points for good learning or good behaviour.

### How you can help at home

At the moment, we are focussing on the basics and on re-establishing routines.

Please read daily with your child (even if only for 10 minutes) as this will have a huge impact on progress.

Please endeavour to help your child to learn and practise their spellings and phonic patterns as and when appropriate.

Please help your child with their mental maths by counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and talk about the related times tables facts as and when appropriate. You could also practise number bonds to 10, 20 and 100.

If you have any concerns or would like to support in school, please feel free to speak to us. Please keep us informed of anything happening in your child's life which may have an impact on their well-being or academic success.

Here's to a busy, exciting year! We very much look forward to working with you and your children during the coming year.

Kind regards

**Miss Evans and Miss Maloney.**