

Year 2 Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 2020

Welcome to Year 2!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to the exciting year ahead. Mrs Kirby and I have been super impressed with the way your children have settled back into school life and adapted to their new routines. I can't wait to see how the year unfolds.

The following information will provide you with an insight into what the children will be learning in Year 2. Should you have any problems, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes,

Mrs Ryder and Mrs Kirby.

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Home Learning

Please support your child's learning at home by practising their spelling challenges with them and reading regularly. Spellings will be stuck into your child's reading record and will be tested every **Friday**. Reading scheme books will be sent home on a **Friday** and will need to be returned to school on the following **Monday**, along with their reading record, so they can both be quarantined. Therefore, it may be worth taking a picture of your child's spellings so they are available to you whilst your child's reading record is being quarantined. Children will also be able to select a second book to read at home. As some of these may be chapter books, these may be brought back into school when your child has finished reading them. I will also be sending home a copy of the Alphabetic Code Chart the children are using in class to support them with independent spelling.

To support their Maths learning, please help your child to learn the number bond facts for the club they are working on, and the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables along with their associated division facts. Maths clubs will be tested every **Monday** in due course. Telling the time is often something children can find tricky but it is an essential life skill. Therefore, any opportunities to practise this at home will be really beneficial for when we move onto this unit. Similarly, learning to identify different coins and notes will help when we move onto our money topic.

English

In English this term we will be covering a range of both fiction and non-fiction texts as well as some poetry.

We will begin the term by learning how to write a journey story. We will look at existing journey stories and identify the key structure of them and what makes them successful. We will then learn to recite one, using actions and pictures to help us remember it. Once we have learnt it, we will then use it to help us write our own journey stories. We will be concentrating on writing sentences which are clear and interesting to our readers. As always, we will continue to concentrate on spellings, handwriting, punctuation and using excellent vocabulary throughout our writing.

Later in the term, we will be writing a character flaw story (similar to 'The Selfish Crocodile'), and information texts about our very own made-up creatures.

Each day we will share a story from our reading spine and read a poem during the week. The children are already enjoying 'A bear called Paddington,' and we have shared 2 poems together: 'I opened a book' and 'Book thief'.

Maths

In Maths this term we begin by focusing on the place value of numbers to 100, recognising the value of each digit, reading and writing them and comparing and ordering numbers using the < > and = symbols.

We will also be focusing on the four operations. Children will be learning about the commutative rule for addition and will learn to recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction to check calculations. Children will also be learning to recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 and use related facts to 100. As well as this, children will be taught to calculate statements for multiplication and division within the 2, 5 and 10 times table. They will learn that multiplication can be done in any order but division cannot.

Children will also be taught to recognise and use symbols for pounds and pence, make the same amounts using different combinations of coins and solve simple problems, including giving change.

PSHE

During this term in PSHE, we will be learning about positive relationships and their key ingredients for an effective relationship. We will focus on things like friendship, kindness, sharing, fairness and respect, not only in our immediate environment but in our wider community, too.

Alongside this and throughout the year, we will be shaping our Growth Mindset culture and will be learning about the characteristics of a Growth Mindset and how *all* children can develop this.

Science

Our science topic will cover, 'Living things and their habitats'. Children will be taught to:

- explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive.
- identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other.
- identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats
- describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food.

History

In history, the children will be learning about The Gunpowder plot. Through this topic, they will acquire an understanding of the vocabulary associated with the passing of time. They will be able to compare similarities and differences between life then and now, and begin to understand the significant changes that occurred to the way we live as a direct result of this incident.

Geography

This term, children will be finding out about their surrounding environment. We will be start off by looking at our school address, what the different parts of an address refer to and investigate the journey of a letter. Later in the term, they will begin to understand geographical similarities and differences between the UK and Serrekunda, a contrasting area in The Gambia.

P.E.

PE will take place every Thursday. Children will be developing their fundamental movement skills, specifically, their ability to dodge effectively. In gymnastics, children will be learning to link different types of movement to create a routine.

Can you please ensure long hair is tied back and earrings are removed.

Music

Children will be given the opportunity to learn a number of songs. In doing so, they will learn how to find the pulse or heartbeat of the song, copy and clap rhythms, identify different instruments and learn to appreciate different styles of music.

Computing

In computing this term, children will be learning about algorithms. They will learn to create and debug algorithms which make a sprite/character move across a computer screen.

Art and Design Technology

In Art, children will be developing their drawing and printing skills. They will be experimenting with charcoal, pencil and pastels to practise their shading skills and complete some block printing. Whilst in D&T, we will be working with textiles to design and create a finger puppet.

R.E.

In R.E. this term children will be learning about Christianity and Christian beliefs, specifically, the importance of kindness and why Christians believe God gave Jesus to the world.