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Head Teacher: Mrs Paula Fearn

15th September 2017



Dear Parents

Topic Information For Year 2 - Autumn Term

What a great start your child has made into this new year group. The children have all settled well into our routines and are showing that they are ready to be the best they can be with their learning.

The Year 2 Team

In Year 2 your child will be taught by myself on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and by Mrs Debbie Wood on a Wednesday morning and Miss Atmore on a Wednesday afternoon. Miss Atmore is the class teaching assistant and Mrs Saunders is a teaching assistant who works closely to support two children in the class in the mornings.

Your child's day usually starts with an "Early bird" activity which is often based around numeracy, handwriting, literacy or spelling. There is a big emphasis this year on accurate spelling within writing, so your child will be getting weekly spellings to take home on a Friday (with a dictation to test the words within a sentence on the following Friday) alongside daily spelling lessons. Please support your child in the learning of these spellings as some of the Year 2 words can be quite challenging. You will be receiving information on the many different ways that we teach spelling to help you support your child at home.

Well presented and legible handwriting is something that we are focusing on this year in our school. In Year 2 children are aiming to join letters and to know the ones that do not join. This is new for most of the children in this year group and some are already trying hard. We use the cursive handwriting style so any practise at home that you can do will be greatly appreciated.

Your child has been given a library book to take home this week and a daily reading book. Reading a little every day has such a positive impact on your child's ability to access the rest of the curriculum as well as a wonderful gift to share with your child. We do encourage you to listen to your child read each day. When they have finished the book please encourage them to place it in our box outside the classroom so we know your child needs to change the book. Please write a comment or just sign to say that you have listened to your child read (in the reading record book). Library books will be changed weekly on a Wednesday.



Any homework that is set in addition to reading and spelling will be sent out on a Friday to be completed by the following Thursday. The homework will be linked to work that we are doing in class.

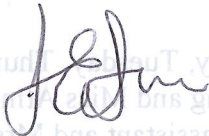
PE day is on a Wednesday so please ensure that your child has their PE kit, long hair tied back and a water bottle. They get changed in school.

Our Autumn topic on Castles is an exciting one - leading to many questions and discussions. We are hoping to arrange a visit to a local castle after half term and will forward information, including costings, very shortly. We are also going on a cinema trip on 16th November which will be free of charge.

Many of our literacy lessons will be based around our topic with an emphasis on accurate use of punctuation, accurate spellings and presentable work.

All the Year 2 staff are happy to answer any questions you may have about your child's learning and look forward to sharing how your child is settling in during our first "Meet the teacher" meeting in early October.

Yours Sincerely



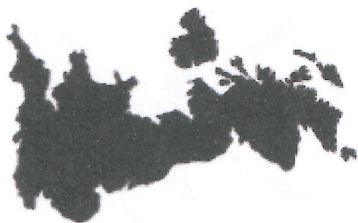
Mrs Jo Bourne
Year 2 Class Teacher

Numeracy

We will be exploring place value and the four operations of adding, subtracting, dividing and multiplying. This will be linked to our topic and everyday activities wherever suitable. There will be regular problem solving, reasoning and discussion about our maths.

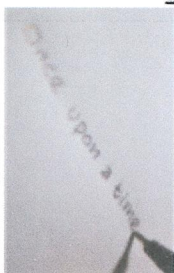
Geography and History

We will be exploring areas of the UK through our castle topic. This will involve debating about favourite castles, thinking about why they were built in particular places and how people survived in these conditions. Map skills will be developed alongside recognition of different UK counties, capital cities and landmarks.



Literacy

We will be planning, writing and editing a story set in a castle. Non-fiction writing will be linked to our topic; exploring different forms of writing, such as questions and statements. Drama will be closely linked to our writing - experimenting with commands and exclamations. Children will learn how to write a letter both for a real purpose and in the guise of a different character



Science

In the first half term we are exploring everyday materials. This will include planning and conducting an experiment to see how to change their shape.

In the second half term we are looking at how animals (including humans) survive. This will be linked to PE and PHSE; discussing basic hygiene and well being.



RE

In term one we will be discussing the creation story and learning more about Prayer life, Feasts and Saints. The children will discover more about the Islamic faith before half term.

After half term we will be preparing for Christmas with our Advent topic and find out more about Sacraments.



Art/DT

In DT we will be designing, building and evaluating a structure that can stand up - thinking through how the materials will join and the overall finished effect.

In Art we will be exploring printing - using a knight as a stimulus.



What was life like inside a castle?



Autumn 2017

ICT

Your child will be learning more about how to stay safe using different media and how to create a simple animation - linked to the term's topic of Castles. A trip to the cinema on 16th November will help the children to see animation on the big screen with a 3D presentation of Cars 3.

