



Autumn Curriculum Newsletter Year 2

Key Dates and Important messages

Welcome back, Year 2 parents! The year 2 team are so excited to welcome you and your children back into school. To keep you and your children safe during these strange times please ensure you read all information sent to you regarding precautions to take with regards to COVID-19.

- This year's welcome meeting will take place via Zoom on Tuesday 15th September at 4:30pm – see attached slip for details. During this meeting we will discuss how you can support your children's learning at home.
- Year 2 have PE on Tuesday and Thursday. Children need to come to school in their kit and will remain in it for the rest of the day.
- If you have any questions, worries or concerns please message your child's class teacher via Teams (using your child's login).

Talk for writing

This half term we are focusing on the story 'Traction Man is Here' by Jeanne Willis. This is an adventure story based on Traction volunteering for a special mission. The aim is for the children to write a present tense narrative using story language, conjunctions and adjectives. Later this term, we will be looking at writing instructions based around Traction Man.

How you can help

Please listen to your child retell the text they are learning with the actions to help them remember the story. Support your child with practicing their spellings, in preparation for their weekly spelling test.

Maths Mastery

This term we will be learning about place value, number, word problems and calculations. As part of the Maths Mastery lessons, children will be using a variety of pictorial and concrete resources to aid their learning. They will also be encouraged to speak in full sentences using mathematical vocabulary.

How you can help

Please ensure your child is using Times Tables Rockstar's and Mathletics regularly at home. This will help them make progress in their weekly Cracking Times Tables tests and their fluency with mathematical concepts.

PSHE and RE

This term our new Jigsaw unit is 'Being me in my World' where children will explore their rights and responsibilities and have the opportunity to reflect on their own identity. In RE the children will be exploring the question 'How important is it for Jewish people to do what god asks them to do?'

How you can help

Talk to your children about their responsibilities and taking ownership of their learning.

Enquiry curriculum

This term we are exploring the question: What would you do if you were the Lord Mayor during the Great Fire of London? The children will be learning about what life was like during 1666 and comparing it to modern day London. Throughout the unit, the children will use and compare historical sources to support their understanding. We will also explore the best materials for a house to be made from and why based on their properties. Finally, the children will be redesigning a city to ensure it is safe from fire.

How you can help

Spend time talking to your child about different types of houses that you see and modern-day firefighting techniques. Regularly look over and discuss the knowledge organiser outlining the key knowledge with your child.

Our school development priorities

Reading



This year we are continuing to focus on reading, ensuring our children are the best readers they can be. As you know, reading is a vital skill for our children to develop and it ensures their success in all other areas of the curriculum. This term we are focusing on developing children's fluency and confidence in reading. They will read a range of challenging texts and will have opportunities to enjoy reading and share their favourite books. We are developing children's confidence through drama and discussion, encouraging them to share their views and opinions. At home, your child should be reading every day. If they find reading difficult, you can encourage them to use their Fred talk to sound out words. Children benefit from having good reading models, so if you are able to read aloud to your child it will benefit their reading skills. It is useful to question your child about what they are reading. If you would like more guidance on this, talk to your child's teacher and refer to the reading list which has been sent home. We are also encouraging children to explore different books and enjoy their reading. Take some time to visit the library and explore different texts, such as non-fiction, novels, picture books, graphic novels and magazines.

Health and well-being

As you are aware, we as a school are committed in developing our children to not only become lifelong learners but people who are healthy both in mind and body. For this reason, we have now agreed to be part of a programme called 'Active Movement', which is focused on encouraging children to be just a little bit more active in the day, such as stand up to answer, move around the class when saying their times tables and just be a little bit more active as part of their everyday lessons. In addition to this, children will be going on walks around the school (You will see the posters around the school) and enjoying the lovely site we have. As well as exercising, it is imperative we teach our children how to eat healthily, as habits are formed very early in life. Hence, we have put together a healthy eating policy which can be accessed on the school website or from the school office. We talk to children about their mental well-being in school and have worry boxes for them to share their anxieties or concerns with their teachers. To help your children at home, encourage your children to share what they did at school, any concerns they had or things they are excited about.



Problem solving

Children spend every day in school going over some of their times table and in addition to their normal maths lesson the children have a maths meet, in which we share and recap previous learning practising and refining skills which have already been taught. This daily revisit enables the muscle memory to remember the mathematical concepts and become embedded. Timetables are something which will be remembered if you practise daily. You can do this through games, reciting, different computer apps or songs such as To enable your children to become problem solvers, why not give them real –life problems to solve where they can practise and apply their maths learning. For example asking them to work out how many minutes or hours till the bus arrives, the change given in the shop, how many ingredients you need if you double the quantity. Here is a link to Mathletics, all children will soon receive their own password.

<http://uk.mathletics.com/>

