

# Year 2 Autumn Newsletter

'Hand in hand with Jesus Christ we live, love and learn together'

## What makes us extraordinary?

Welcome to Year 2!

We hope you have had a restful summer break and the children are excited about their new start in year 2.

We are looking forward to getting stuck into the wide range of exciting activities we have planned for you. This term our work is based around our theme 'What makes us extraordinary?'.

During the first half term we will be completing work around two books: 'The Lost Homework' and 'Vlad and the Florence Nightingale Adventure'.

For the second half term we will be completing work around: 'Eliot Jones Midnight Superhero' and 'The Extraordinary Life of Mary Seacole'.

RE will be at the heart of everything we do. This term we will focus on the creation story in our 'Beginnings' topic, the Sacrament of Baptism during our 'Signs and Symbols' topic and, of course, the story of the birth of Jesus in our final topic, 'Preparations'.

### Art and D.T

We will be using the medium of chalk, box modelling and sketching to create a range of different projects such as portraits of ourselves and designing and making ambulances.

### History

We will be looking at Nursing and influential historical figures.

We will study how nursing has changed through the years and look at significant historical people such as: Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole.

### Science

This term we will be learning about the properties of materials and what makes them suitable or unsuitable for a particular purpose. The children will be encouraged to think about unusual and creative uses for everyday materials. Pupils will find out about people who have developed useful new materials, for example John Dunlop and Charles Macintosh.

### Maths

This term in Maths we will be focusing on place value and addition and subtraction. There will be a big focus on arithmetic skills and number bonds.

### English and phonics

This term there will be a big focus on sentence structure in English lessons.

There will also be daily phonics lessons. In Autumn we will be recapping phase 5 phonics sounds to deepen the children's understanding and also starting to learn Year 2 spelling rules.

### PE, Computers and languages

Children will take part in PE and French lessons each week on a Wednesday afternoon. Computing lessons will take place every week.

### Please note:

Homework will be collected in on a Monday and new homework will be given out on a Tuesday. This will consist of reading, learning spellings and a maths task. There will also be a half termly project linked to our topic.

Spelling tests will take place on a Monday.

Children must be sent to school with all of the correct PE kit: t-shirt, shorts, jumper, jogging bottoms and trainers or plimsolls throughout the entire school year. Please ensure it is clearly labelled.

## Diary dates

15th September Year 2 welcome meeting (8.30am in the hall)

22nd September European Day of Languages

11th October Parents consultations

13th October Parents consultations

17th October – 30th October Half Term

4th November Disco

11th November Remembrance Liturgy (2.45pm)

18th November Children in Need

25th November Frost Fayre (2-4pm)

12th December Christmas celebration 2M (2.45pm)

13th December Christmas celebration 2V (2.45pm)

14th December Christmas dinner day

19th December Christmas jumper day and Carols Round the Tree 2M

20th December Christmas jumper day and Carols Round the Tree 2V

22nd December - 3rd January Christmas Holidays

## Guided Reading

Children will take part in a guided reading group during the week. The children must bring home readers back to school on their reading day to ensure that their books are changed for the following week. We will notify you on Seesaw when your child has read in school and what the focus was for the session.

### Tips for reading

Turn off the TV so there are no distractions.  
10-15 minutes of reading each night is enough.  
If your child is struggling with a word, allow them time to have a go - let them self correct or sound words out.  
Identify nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs and noun phrases.

Talk about the book to see if they understand what they have read: Where did the story take place? Are there words to describe the setting? Who are the characters? What are they like? How do you know? What happens at the beginning/middle/end? How have things changed? Which part of the story did you like/dislike? Why?

Ask the children to show you where they found their answers and how they know.  
It is important to read a variety of genres, including non-fiction texts.

We encourage the children to drink plenty of water throughout the day and the best way for this to happen is for your child to bring in a NAMED bottle of water. Please ensure children have these with them everyday.

## The Year 2 Team

**2V – Mrs Vyse (Monday and Tuesday)**  
**Mrs Bilbie (Wednesday/Thursday/Friday)**

**2M – Mrs Mannering (Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday)**  
**Mrs Walker (Thursday and Friday)**

**Teaching assistants – Mrs Doran, Miss Nicholson and Mrs Jones**  
**Schools Direct Trainee Teacher – Mrs Peacock**