

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: 'Isabelle and the Crooks' and 'The Tear Thief'

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'.

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.

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.

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.

Art

In our Art sessions this Autumn, children will be exploring the use of lines, geometric shapes, shadows and pencil techniques to create observational drawings, self-portraits and quick sketches of known images.

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.

D&T

The children will build on their knowledge of natural and manmade structures. They will identify features that make a chair stable and use these to make a stable structure of baby bears chair.

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.

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

128th September – European Day of Languages
17th October – Parent consultations
19th October – Parent consultations
23rd October – 5th November – Half Term
9th November – Flu vaccinations
10th November - Remembrance liturgy (2:45pm)
20-24th November – Enterprise week
24th November – Frost fayre
13th December – 2M Christmas celebration (2:45pm)
14th December – 2H Christmas celebration (2:45pm)
19th December – Christmas jumper day 2M
19th December – Carols around the tree 2M (2:15pm)
20th December – Christmas jumper day 2H
20th December – Carols around the tree 2H (2:15pm)
22nd December – INSET DAY
23rd December – 3rd January – Christmas holidays
4th January – Children return to school

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.

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.

The Year 2 Team

2V

Mrs Hyland-Taylor (Monday and Tuesday)
Mrs Bilbie (Wednesday/Thursday/Friday)

2M

Mrs Mannering (Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday)
Mrs Walker (Thursday and Friday)

Teaching assistants – Mrs Doran, Miss Lehane and Mrs Jones
Schools Direct Trainee Teacher – Miss Chambers