



Year 2 Newsletter

Autumn 2020/21

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome to Year 2! I hope you are feeling refreshed and ready after the long Summer break. I am really looking forward to returning to school full time and I hope your child is too.

English

We will start off the half term by exploring letter writing. Within this unit, there will be a focus on demarcation of sentences and ensuring full stops and capital letters are secure early on in the term. Our class book will be Roald Dahl's George's Marvelous Medicine, which will lend itself to a lot of our writing in class, as we go on to explore Instructions and Poetry writing. We will then move on to Jill Murphy's The Worst Witch (just in time for October and Halloween festivities). We will also be practising and applying what we have learnt in Spelling and Grammar lessons to our writing, with additional spellings to be sent home every Friday for the children to practise. I will also send home extra sentence structure homework tasks to ensure that this area is consolidated early on.

Maths

We will be learning about number and place value in the first few weeks of term, followed by addition and subtraction. We will also be consolidating counting in steps of 2, 3 & 5 from 0 and in tens from any number forward and backward at the start of the term, to ensure greater fluency with mental arithmetic. Place value will take priority for the first few weeks and a solid understanding in this area will be crucial. I will be teaching this thoroughly with the use of visual representatives, such as base 10, to ensure secure knowledge within this area. Every morning will include a times table session and we will start off with our two times tables. If you wish to do some extra times tables work, there is a useful website called TopMarks with a game called Hit The Button, which is both fun and useful.

Science

Our focus in Science will be everyday materials, where the children will build upon their knowledge of distinguishing objects from materials, describing their properties and identifying and grouping everyday materials. They will then go on to compare the suitability of objects and materials for different uses. This will be an exciting unit for the children, as they will take part in practical sessions that will help develop scientific ways of thinking through close observations, identifying and classifying and gathering and recording data.

Other subjects

Our topic this term is Our Local Environment, which will predominantly inform our History unit as well as Art and Citizenship. In History, we will build upon the children's awareness of the past by exploring the history of their own locality. They will learn to compare Henham and the surrounding area in the past and present by going on a local area walk of Henham. In Art, we will explore the theme of our local environment by making natural art based on the work of the sculptor Andy Goldsworthy. We will then explore and master colour mixing techniques by focusing on the artist Wassily Kandinsky and his study on Concentric Circles.

In Computing we will address key computer skills where the children will develop confidence and independence with ICT. We will also learn about algorithms using the programme Purple Mash. In Music we will be learning our class song Hands, Feet & Heart, experimenting with different rhythms, sounds and learning to play a variety of different un-tuned instruments musically. In RE the children will be studying the theme of Special People, where learning and teaching will focus mainly on the suggestions for personal experience and Christianity and Judaism. Finally, PE will take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, where the children will need to come to school already in their PE kits.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask. I'm really looking forward to meeting you all properly over the next term!

Best Wishes, Miss Jeremy