

Life in All its Fullness - Come and See



Year 2

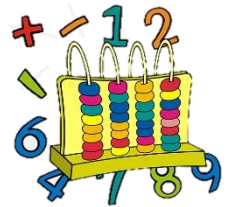
Autumn 2023 Newsletter



Welcome to a new school year and to Year 2. We are all really excited to be back this Autumn and are looking forward to lots of fun and learning. Mrs Handley will be leading the class every day except Tuesday mornings when Mrs Richards will be in class. Both will be ably supported by Miss Walton throughout the week.

Maths

Our main focus in the first half term will be the concept of number. We will be exploring and reasoning about numbers up to 100. We will be investigating how numbers can be partitioned in different ways, and the importance of place value. Much of the learning will be supported through the use of special maths equipment before moving on to using pictorial representations to show understanding. After half term, we will start to introduce calculation strategies for addition and subtraction. This will, again, focus on the use of concrete apparatus initially in order to strengthen the children's understanding of these important areas of maths, before moving onto the pictorial methods.



English

This year, we are kicking off the teaching of English, in every class across the school, with a poetry unit. The aim of these units is to immerse the children in rich vocabulary and language, that will inspire them and demonstrate how words can evoke emotion from the reader at every level. In Year 2, we will be basing our learning around *Marshmallow Clouds* by Ted Kooser and Connie Wanek. These poems, framed by the four elements, are about art and reality, fact and fancy, each inspired by the magic of nature. Moving forward, we are currently updating the texts that are taught across the school. You will be able to see these detailed on our long-term plans, when they are published on the class pages of our website over the next couple of weeks.



Science

Over the next term, the children's Science topic will focus on 'Materials'. This will include being able to differentiate between an object name and the material it is made out of. Different materials will be investigated to determine their properties including whether something is **waterproof** or **absorbent**, **transparent**, **translucent** or **opaque** and **flexible** or **rigid**. The children will discuss why it is important that objects are created using certain materials e.g. a window is made out of glass because it is transparent.



Geography/History

The first half term, will have a Geography focus. The children will become familiar with their own place in the world and how groups of countries form a continent. They will learn the names of the seven continents and the five main world oceans that surround them.

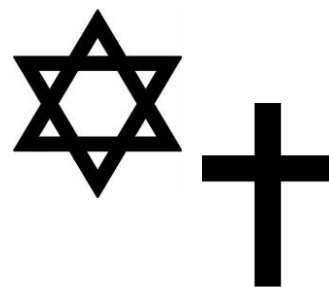
Our History focus, will be on 'Important Events'. This will include Remembrance Day, Guy Fawke's attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament and the Great Fire of London.



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RE

This term, the children will explore the concept of 'Believing' through the study of both the Jewish and the Christian faiths. We will investigate core belief systems including repentance and how Christians believe that Jesus is the 'Saviour'. Key festivals from these faiths will also be linked in to show how these core beliefs are recognised and celebrated.



Art and DT

Art and DT will be alternated each half term. Initially the children will focus on the skill of 'printing' and how to create their own designs. They will also learn about the famous artist, Andy Warhol. After half term, the children will learn how to join templates through the use of textiles.

PE

This term, the children will have PE on a **Monday** and a **Tuesday**. Please could the children come to school wearing their PE kit on these days. PE may be indoors or outdoors, so please ensure your child has a named blue jumper/hoody and jogging bottoms/leggings if it is cold.

This term, the units focus on 'Movement and Dodging' and Gymnastics



Computing



As always, online safety will be a focus at the start of this term. With the constantly ever-changing landscape of online gaming and communication, it is key that children are kept up to date with how to keep themselves safe. We will also be looking at units in skillful on-line research and creating pictures through Purple Mash.

PSHE and Music

RHE will continue to be taught throughout the term using our excellent Jigsaw scheme. In the first half term, children will learn about 'Being Me' - what makes them special and unique. In the second half term, we will look at 'Celebrating Difference' and how it is important to look beyond our own experiences. Our Y2 Jiggy character 'Jo' will be there to keep us company along the way.

In music, we are looking forward to starting the exciting new 'Sing Up' Scheme. Our first unit is entitled 'Tony Chestnut' Music will also take place in our worships and we look forward to lots of singing in preparation for our KS1 nativity (date to be announced shortly - please keep an eye on the newsletter).



Further information

Homework: This will be given weekly on a Thursday through Microsoft Teams and will usually include a maths and spelling task. The children will be given a Microsoft Teams account with their own login details in the first couple of weeks. Hand-in will be the following Wednesday

Reading: Please read with your child as often as possible and note when you have read using our new Boom Reader digital record.

Snack/Milk: We provide a fruit or vegetable snack for your child every day. If you would like your child to have milk please register with www.coolmilk.com or on 0844 854 2913.

Pick up: If your child is going home with someone other than a regular parent or carer, please let us know on the door in the morning or email the office.

Request: We are looking for donations of solid pieces polystyrene for our art project this term. Could any donations please be brought to the classroom on drop off or pick up - thank you! ☺