

Year 2 Autumn Newsletter

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

What makes a hero?

Welcome children and parents to Year 2! As I'm sure you already know, your teachers are Miss Dawson and Miss Keane, and we are delighted to be back and producing our first newsletter to you all.

No doubt, when you look at the dates for this term, you will see that we are back into the full swing of things and busy, busy, busy from the very first day. We are extremely excited about getting stuck into the wide range of activities we have planned for you.

Our religious studies 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'.

This term, they are all based around our theme: What makes a hero?

We will be completing work around two books: Man on the moon and Traction Man, and all of our History, Science, Art, DT and Computing will stem from them.

Art

We will learn about the artist Lucien Rudaux and complete pieces of 'space' themed art in line with our books in mind.

English

Year 2 has a heavy focus on learning, and using, the different word classes— nouns, verbs etc and on adding a wide range of suffixes to root words. We will use the past tense for story writing and use our theme books. We will write instructions, descriptions and stories whilst focusing on spelling rules and sentence types.

History

We are going to use the idea of 'changes' to look at Travel and Transport. We will study how things have changed through the years and look at significant historical people such as: Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake, George Stephenson and the Wright brothers.

DT and Science

Our design and technology work will be closely linked with our Science as we build rockets and a new traction man. The Science topic is all about materials and their properties.

Children will also complete coding in Computing and take part in PE lessons each week.

We look forward to working with you, and supporting each other on your child's journey in Year 2.

Miss Dawson and Miss Keane

Here are a few important notices for the year:

- Homework will be **given out** on a **Tuesday or Wednesday** and **handed in** on the following **Monday**
- Spelling tests will take place on a Monday afternoon
- Children will have PE on Tuesdays (every week) and Thursdays (second half term only)
- Children **DO NOT** need large rucksacks— a plastic bag for their fruit tub is enough. Water bottles and book bags are stored in the classroom. Children will store their PE bags and coats on their pegs and, as we do not have a vast amount of space, the cloakrooms become extremely untidy and items go missing when pupils have too many bags.
- 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. They will take part in both indoor and outdoor PE and must always be prepared.

What's happening this term...

Wednesday 6th September	School starts
Thursday 14th September	Individual and sibling photographs
Friday 22nd September	Disco 2:00-3:00pm
Tuesday 26th September	European languages day
Thursday 12th October	Space Centre visit
Tuesday 17th October and Wednesday 18th October	Parents Evening 3:40-6:40pm
Friday 20th October	INSET day
Monday 23rd October	Half term
Monday 30th October	School starts
Monday 27th November	Enterprise week
Friday 1st December	Frost fayre 2-4pm
Tuesday 12th December	2C Christmas celebration (2pm)
Wednesday 13th December	2E Christmas celebration (2pm)
Wednesday 20th December/ Thursday 21st December	Carols around the tree
Friday 22nd December	Last day of school
Saturday 23rd December	Christmas holidays
Monday 8th January	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. There are places in the classroom for these to be kept so that the children have constant access to a drink.



2C Guided Reading

The children in groups Butterflies, Crickets, Dragonflies and Grasshoppers will take part in Guided reading on a Friday. Children in Ladybirds and Spiders will read on a Tuesday.

The children must bring home readers and reading diaries to ensure that their books are changed for the following week. If previous readers are **NOT** signed, books will **NOT** be changed.

Tips for reading

Turn off the TV so there are no distractions.

10-15 minutes of reading each night is enough (**little and often**)

If your child is struggling with a word, allowing them time to have a go.

Let them self correct or sound words out.

Identify nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs and noun phrases— the children MUST know what these are and be able to find them within a text.

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?

Do you like the characters?

What happens at the beginning/middle/end?

How have things changed? Was it good or bad?

Which part of the story did you like/dislike? And why?

Get them to give opinions and reasons for their answers.

Ask the children to show you where they found their answers and how they know.

It is also important to read a variety of genres, including non-fiction texts.