

Year 2 Autumn Newsletter

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

What makes a hero?

Welcome to Year 2!

We hope you have had a lovely summer break and the children are excited about being back at school. 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 excited about getting stuck into the wide range of activities we have planned for you.

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'.

This term our work is all based around our theme: What makes a hero? We will be completing work around two books: Man on the moon and Traction Man.

Art

We will learn about the artist Lucien Rudaux and complete pieces of 'space' themed art.

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, 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 take part in Computing, languages and PE lessons each week.

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

Please note:

Homework will be given out on a Wednesday and handed in on the following Tuesday.

Spelling tests will take place on a Tuesday afternoon

Children will have PE on Wednesdays (every week) and Thursdays (first half term only)

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.

Diary dates

13th September Individual photos
26th September European Day of Languages
12th October International Evening
23rd October Parents Evening 3.40-6.40pm
24th October Parents Evening 3.40-6.40pm
26th October INSET Day
29th October - 2nd November Half Term
9th November KS1 Remembrance liturgy
2.45pm
26th November Enterprise Week
30th November Frost Fair 2-4pm
11th December 2C Christmas celebration
2.45pm
12th December 2E Christmas celebration
2.45pm
18th December Carols round the tree 2.30pm
(C classes)
19th December Carols round the tree 2.30pm
(E classes)
24th December - 4th January Christmas
holiday

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.

Guided Reading

The children will all take part in a Guided reading group during the week. 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

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 also important to read a variety of genres, including nonfiction texts.