

## Year 2 Spring Newsletter

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

### How am I different to others?

**Welcome back and Happy New Year.** We hope you all had a fabulous Christmas break and are as excited as we are to be starting the new term! We have a very busy term ahead with lots of exciting dates for the calendar.

Our theme for the term will be: 'How am I different to others?' This links into all areas of our work and provides us with the opportunity to explore and celebrate similarities and differences.

As always, our religious education will be at the heart of everything we do. This term our topics will be, Books, Thanksgiving and Opportunities. Through engaging in these topics, we aim to develop our ability to think critically, listen empathetically and speak thoughtfully. We encourage the children to ask questions and make links to their own life experiences.

This term, we will be completing work around three books: Oi Frog!, Oi Dog! and Lila and The Secret of Rain. All of our Geography, Science, Art, and DT will stem from these books.

#### Maths:

This term, the areas we will be focusing on are: multiplication, division, fractions, time and capacity. Weekly maths homework will stem from the topic area we have covered that week. We encourage the children to learn their 2, 5 and 10 times tables as these will be integral to all our work on multiplication, division and fractions.

#### English:

Following on from last term, we will continue to have a focus on different word classes (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs) and sentence types. As ever, we will be engaging with a variety of writing styles whilst focusing on spelling rules and handwriting.

#### Science:

Our science topic for the term is 'animals including humans'. Through this we will be learning about: basic needs, changes, exercise and healthy eating. We will also look at life cycles of a variety of animals.

#### Geography:

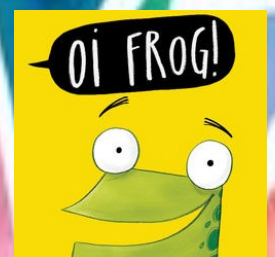
Following the theme from our book, Lila and The Secret of Rain, our geography focus will be Kenya. We will be using, creating and studying the features of maps, learning about life in Kenya and comparing Kenyan life to our own life here in the U.K.

#### Art:

We will be learning about 'Safari Art' through exploring the artwork of artists Martin Bulinya and Tilly Willis. We will also be learning about Giuseppe Archimboldo and recreating portraits using fruit, vegetables and plants.

#### Here are a few important reminders for this term:

- Homework will be **given out** on a **Wednesday** and **handed in** on the following **Tuesday**.
- In addition to homework, children should also be reading for 15-20 minutes **every day** at home.
- Children will be tested on their spellings every Tuesday.
- Please ensure all belongings are labelled with names.
- Children will have PE on Wednesday (every week) .





### What's happening this term...

Friday 11th January	Talent show auditions
Tuesday 22nd January	Talent Show 9:15am
Friday 25th January	School Disco
Wednesday 6th February	Safer internet day
Friday 9th February	Year 2 Liturgy
Friday 15th February	INSET DAY
Monday 18h February	Half Term
Monday 25th February	School starts back
Tuesday 5th March	Mardi Gras
Tuesday 5th March	Parents Evening
Wednesday 6th March	
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day
Monday 11th March	Maths week
Friday 15th March	Year 2 Liturgy
Monday 1st April	Holy Week
Monday 8th April	First day of Easter break



### Guided Reading

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

**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?

How do you know?

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?

How were the characters feeling? How do you know?

How would you feel if you were in their situation?

**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.**

We look forward to another busy and exciting term in Year 2!