



Year 2 Autumn Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have had a lovely summer. We are looking forward to starting the new academic year and would like to let you know what we will be doing.

Curriculum

This half term, English lessons will focus on traditional and alternative fairy tales, followed by animal stories. In Maths, the children will continue to develop their number, problem-solving and reasoning skills. During the afternoons, they will learn about 'Our bodies' in Science and explore drawing techniques in Art. We are looking forward to using atlases and maps to learn about some interesting islands in Geography.

During the second half term, the children will learn about the Fire of London. We will be visited by an expert from the Museum of London (more details to follow). In Art and DT, we will work on a range of Christmas crafts and we will hold a Christmas craft day on **Friday 9th December**. We would love it if you would come and help us out on that day; we will let you know more nearer the time. Our Christmas play will be held on **15th and 16th December at 2:30**.

Phonics

The children will continue to have daily phonics lessons in smaller groups. There is some information about phonics on the school website. To access this, go to 'Home Learning' then 'Supporting your child'. The document includes some web links to interactive games.

Reading

Over the first week, we will hear all the children read and hand out a suitable reading book. Some children may bring a book home earlier than others as we work our way through hearing them. Your child should bring their reading book and record to school every day. The best way you can help them to continue making progress is to hear them read daily and to spend time discussing the plot and characters, as well as predicting what might happen next. We will stick a sheet of helpful discussion questions into your child's reading record during the first couple of weeks. Please write in their record each time they have read.

We are introducing a 'Reading Raffle' with a small prize at the end of the week. For every entry in their reading records, the children may put a raffle ticket into a pot. We will have a weekly winner and a half termly winner, who will receive a book!

Class teachers will change a child's reading book when they are able to read it confidently and fluently. We will be encouraging all children to inform us of when they feel ready to change their book. If your child has not read their book fluently, please keep it and ask them to re-read it until they read confidently with good expression. This extra practice will help them to progress with word recognition, expression and understanding. Your child's class teacher will hear your child read either individually or as a group on a weekly basis. Daily reading also takes place during English lessons. This will not be recorded in your child's yellow book.

RE/PSHE

During the first half term, the children will explore the meaning of religious symbols and signs in RE, followed by Christmas in the second half term. In PSHE lessons, the children will focus on 'Feelings and managing change', then 'Kindness and Charitable Giving'.

PE

All children will need to have named indoor and outdoor PE kits. Indoor PE kit consists of a white T-shirt, green shorts and trainers. For outdoor PE, children will also need jogging bottoms and sweatshirts. Long hair needs to be tied back and earrings removed. Our PE days will vary so we ask that children have their kits every day. They will have school swimming lessons in April (more information to follow).

Daily Snack and Water Bottles

Children will continue to receive their daily snack of fruit or vegetables. Please send your child in with a named water bottle which they can then refill in their classrooms.

Home Learning

Every fortnight, your child will be set a maths challenge based on developing number fluency skills. They will then have a short test on this in class. They will be able to share their results in their pink maths challenge books, which then should be returned to school.

Children will continue to have a topic based question to answer in their Home Learning books every two weeks. Please use the questions as an opportunity to discuss what they have been learning in class. Homework will be due in on Thursdays and books returned home on Fridays after their work has been shared in class. The home learning will be put on the website, as well as in your child's Home Learning Book.

Pedro (Y2S) and Benito (Y2P)

Pedro Panda and Benito Bear love to travel and discover new places. If you are planning a visit to somewhere interesting and would like to take Pedro or Benito with you, they would love to join you. They will need some help completing their travel diaries and they like to have a photograph taken so they can show the children where they have been and what they have learnt!

We are looking forward to the year ahead and we have lots of exciting things planned. We will be holding a short information meeting for KS1 parents on **Friday 16th September at 2:30 in the hall**. We will talk about the year ahead and answer any questions you may have.

Throughout the year, please feel free to see any of us after school if you have any questions. If you would like to talk to us privately, please arrange an appointment at the office.

Kind regards,

Mrs Sweet (Y2)

Miss Pascale (Y2)