

Journey Autumn 1 Year Two

Dear Parents & Carers

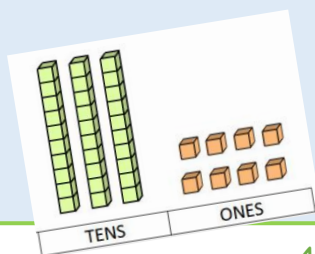
We hope that you had a lovely summer holiday and are ready for a wonderful year ahead as we are! Below is some information regarding the main aspects of the curriculum for the first half term. Our theme is 'Journey' which will be reflected in our curriculum lessons and the classroom environment. We will consider what the word 'journey' means and look at different types of journeys in our subject areas. We will be considering the question, are all journeys the same?

Children may continue to come in their PE kit on PE days. Kites' PE days are on a Monday and Wednesday and Harriers' PE days will be on a Wednesday and Thursday.

We would love it if you could join us for our **'Meet the teacher' sessions** on Tuesday 7th September, 3:30pm - 4:30pm or 6pm - 7pm. This is an opportunity to meet us and find out about the year ahead.

Should you have any queries over the next few weeks, please don't hesitate to contact us via Class Dojo. Please be aware that during the hours 9am - 3:10pm, we will be teaching, however, we will always aim to respond as soon as possible.

The Year Two Team



As Mathematicians

This half term we will be consolidating our knowledge of number and place value up to 50 before extending this by exploring numbers up to 100. We will be investigating the composition of two-digit numbers and learning how to represent these using a range of different equipment such as bead strings, Base 10, place value counters and ten frames. It is important that we use a range of equipment to show our secure understanding of the value of numbers.

In Year 2, we need to be able to partition numbers up to 100 in different ways. We will use part-whole models, which we are familiar with from year 1, and a range of concrete resources to help us.

Each maths lesson, we have a selection of 'Chilli Challenges'. Each challenge increases in difficulty, beginning with fluency (practising the skill), progressing onto reasoning and problem solving to demonstrate the understanding of a concept. The children will be taught to self-select their challenge based on how well they think they understand the day's learning.



As Authors and Readers

Reading is a crucial part of learning in Year 2 and vital if your child is to make progress and access all other aspects of the curriculum. We will focus on reading in school please make it a priority at home

All children have daily phonics sessions where they develop their knowledge of sounds, spelling patterns and improve their reading fluency.

In school, we also have our Guided Reading sessions which take place three times a week. In these sessions, we will look at developing fluency when reading, understanding vocabulary, how to retrieve key information from texts and how to read with expression. When your child reads their Accelerated Reader book at home, it is important that an adult listens to them read. Whilst listening to your child read, please support them in reading any unfamiliar words, understanding the meaning of words which they do not know and ask them a range of questions linked to the text to check they have understood what they have read. Please see the year 2 bookmark for guidance on the types of questions to ask

In our writing sessions, our focus texts are *Meerkat Mail* by Emily Gravett and *Journey* (a wordless book) by Aaron Becker. This half term, we will be linking other subjects to these texts, including science and geography. We will focus on writing recounts and setting descriptions. In our writing we will be working on using capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences. To improve our writing we will be using adjectives to describe and conjunctions (and, because, but, or, when) to link sentences. Throughout these sessions we will be working on enhancing children's vocabulary by introducing varied language and explaining meaning of new words; improving spelling by having a focus on phonics and year 2 spelling rules; and perfecting the children's use of cursive handwriting.



As Sportsmen/ Sportswomen

In PE, we will be doing gymnastics this half term. We will learn a range of movements and balances to put together in a simple sequence, which we will perform to our peers with control. We will challenge ourselves to develop our strength and flexibility whilst working well within a team.

As Scientists

In Science this half term, we are learning all about animals and their habitats. We will learn that all living things share the same life processes and what these are. The children will learn more about different species of animals especially some of the common species in the U.K. In addition, they will learn about the natural places that these animals live and how their habitat provides everything they need to survive.

Children will learn more about food sources and food chains which will show them how animals depend on each other to survive.

Our lessons will be very practical, with children gathering data, making observations and analysing their findings.

As Computer Scientists

In Computing, we will be learning how to log onto the Year 2 desktop independently, typing in the username and passwords. Once we can log on on our own, we will learn how to word process a piece of text. We will practise inserting and deleting words using the mouse and arrow keys and highlight text that we have typed to change its format.

To support us in other curriculum areas, we will be learning how to use Google Classroom and how to take and upload photographs of our work onto our Class Dojo portfolios.



As Designers and Creators

This half term in Design and Technology, we will be designing and creating our very own vehicles! We will begin by analysing products already on the market by holding a transport museum on the field. We will look closely at different types of vehicles, identifying the features and what makes them fit for purpose. Watch out for our photographs on Class Dojo! We will be planning our own next steps as a group and choose materials and tools which we think will be the most appropriate for constructing our vehicles. Terminology such as axles, chassis and joins will be part of our learning whilst we become designers and creators. After we have made our vehicle, we will evaluate our own and our peers work, identifying what went well and what we would do differently next time.



As Theologians (R.E)

In R.E., we are learning all about Christianity. Our key question is, 'Is it possible to be kind to everyone all of the time?' We will learn the story of when Jesus healed the paralysed man and discuss a range of scenarios. We will think about how we show kindness on a daily basis and when and why it might be easy or difficult to show kindness to others. We will think about why Christians should be kind and how they can do this with God's help.

As Geographers

In Geography, we are going to revisit the seven continents focusing on Europe and Africa (the setting for Meerkat Mail) and then the four countries of the U.K.. We will focus on comparing towns and villages in the U.K. and Africa focussing on Blackpool and a town in Africa called Nara Maru. We will learn more about the similarities and differences in children's lives, their homes and their schooling.

In these lessons, we will work on map reading skills, interpreting sources and using geographical data.



PSHE & British Values

In PSHE, this half term, our focus topic is Friendship. We will be learning about different types of friends (e.g. acquaintances and longer term friends) and the roles they play in our lives. We will focus on how to be a good friend and how others can be a good friend of us. We will be working on strategies to help us if we feel lonely or unhappy and how to help others with these feelings. In class, we will emphasise that it is important to tell someone (such as a parent or teacher) if something about their friendship is making them unhappy.

