



**Aston Tower Primary School**

## **Year 2 Autumn 1**

### **English**

#### **Reading**

We have started the term by reading *The Selfish Giant* by Oscar Wilde and we shall look at traditional tales like *Little Red Riding*. Children will also read poems such as 'The Magic Box' by Kit Wright and 'The Colour Collector' By Michael Rosen.

#### **Writing**

Children will focus on different genres of writing such as retelling stories, letter and diary writing, instructions on how to make a magic potion, and creating their poems using rhyme.

#### **Phonics**

Children will learn Phase 5 phonemes and graphemes. We have looked at the digraphs 'ay', 'ow', and ie.

They are taught how to decode words to help them spell and blend them together to help them read. They are taught 'tricky words' such as:

People, so, said, house, about, their, by oh, don't, come, some, who

#### **How you can help your child at home**

- Practice regularly reading and helping them to read new words and understand the meaning.
- Children should also practice their letter formation and ensuring letters are sitting on the line.
- Practise spelling tricky words and using them in sentences.

### **Mathematics**

- They will be taught to add and subtract using objects.
- They will learn to use arrays to help calculate multiplication questions
- Answer written problems that include addition, subtraction, division and multiplication.
- Counting in steps of 2's, 5's and 10's and place value.

#### **How you can help your child at home**

- Practise counting both forward and backwards in tens and in ones.
- To count in steps of 2, 5 and 10's which will help to develop their speed and confidence in multiplication.
- Show them the how they can use multiplication to solve division problems.  
Eg  $2 \times 5 = 10$  so  $10 \div 5 = 2$ .
- Practise answering addition and subtraction questions

### **Science**

Our topic this term is about animals and discovering how they grow. We recognise the differences between animals and their young and how their needs change, as they grow older. We will also look at life cycles of animals including frogs and butterflies. Children will also learn to pose scientific questions and create investigations to find out the answer.

#### **How you can help your child at home**

- Talk to your child about how different animals change as they grow. Do all animals look the same when they are older?
- Discuss what they think animals need to survive. Are humans the same?
- Can they name any animals and their offspring in the local environment?

## **History**

During our topic, this term we will be learning about the gunpowder plot and the role of various characters such as Guy Fawkes and King James I had during this period. We will examine causes of the plot and what the consequences were.

### **How you can help your child at home.**

- Read through the story of the Gunpowder plot with the children.
- Discuss the various characters that were involved in the plot.
- Whether they think that, the Catholics were treated fairly.

## **Computing**

Children will look at how information technology is involved in our lives everyday and what devices are considered to be computers or contain computers. Children will explain how computing is an integral part of day-to-day life and suggest how it has improved the world we live in. They will also learn to open documents and move files across. A key aspect of the curriculum is about how we can use ICT safely at school and at home.

### **How you can help your child at home.**

- Teach children how to keep safe online and not share information with others.
- Teach them how to open documents and copy images to that document

## **Physical Education (PE)**

Children will taking part in dance lessons in PE this term and using music as a stimulus to create different shapes and patterns independently and in small groups. They will listen to music to help inspire their choice of body language and speed and linking sequences together. Children will create low, high, and stretched shapes and think about how to make a transition between each idea.

### **How you can help your child at home.**

Remind your children of the importance of keeping a balanced diet and how exercise plays an important role in keeping our hearts and body healthy.

When children listen to music, ask them to think about the tempo of the beat, for example is it fast or slow? What shapes can they create with this piece of music?

## **Art**

This term we are looking at work by the Austrian artist Hundertwasser. Children will look at a range of his art and building he has designed to help them understand where he took his inspiration. They will design their own buildings based upon the ideas of Hundertwasser, which leads to how he used certain colours in his work.

### **How you can help your child at home.**

Work with your child to help them understand the primary colours and which colours can be made by mixing them together. Children will take part in lots of sketching and allowing them to sketch still objects at home will develop their confidence over time. Take a look at some of Hundertwasser's work online to help you become familiar with some of his work and discuss what the prominent features of his work are.