



# Year 2 Spring Newsletter



A very warm welcome to 2025. We have lots of exciting topics in this term to look forward to. Our overarching theme is 'Chinese New Year'. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with any questions. Mrs Miller, Mrs Craft & Mrs Mavi.

**English** This first half term, a lot of our English work will be based around Chinese New Year. We read an exciting range of myths and legends from China and further develop our descriptive writing using expanded noun-phrases and varying our sentence openers. Poetry and information texts also form part of our learning and we will write non-chronological reports.

**Spelling, punctuation and handwriting** are really important across the curriculum. The children will be working hard to make sure their letters are all formed correctly, positioned properly and accurately sized. Some children have already begun to join their writing.

Spellings, as always, are on Seesaw and tested on Fridays.

**Reading** Daily reading is even more important now that the children are building their fluency. Please remember the importance of re-reading the text or, for children reading chapter books, re-read some of the paragraphs to improve fluency and expression. Sharing a book for pleasure is still the most valuable thing you can do to support your child's learning.

PLEASE DO NOT CARRY WATER BOTTLES IN READING PACKETS AS SOME OF OUR BOOKS ARE GETTING DAMAGED.

**RE** We begin the year by looking at books. We explore why books are important to us. We then move to look more closely as to why the Bible is important to Christians. We will read and discuss a variety of Bible stories. Our next topic is Thanksgiving. We look at how to show people thanks and how we show thanks at Mass. Our final topic is Opportunities, a theme explored through Lent and Easter.

## My Personal Best

### Spring 1– Imagination

### Spring 2– Fairness

We will explore what these mean to us and how we can show these qualities to others across the school day.

**Maths** We begin the term with our topic on multiplication and division understanding equal groups. The children need to be able to count confidently in 10s, 2s, 5s and 3s. We will move onto building arrays to understand how  $5 \times 2$  is worth the same as  $2 \times 5$ . We also learn how to work out division facts, for example  $10 \div 5 = 2$ . We will also learn about money where we start by recognising coins, finding totals and then calculating change. We then move on to solving problems involving shopping and finding change.

We also will be learning about measurement looking at measuring height and length as well as capacity, volume and mass. There will be a focus on telling the time especially half past, o'clock, quarter to and quarter past moving on to telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes. A strong emphasis is put on number fact fluency. 15 minutes is dedicated daily to number fluency and recall of previous learning is embedded throughout lessons.





## Checklist: Water bottles and PE Kit Thursday



**PE** In gymnastics we are concentrating on balance and travel. We will also be looking at putting sequences together. The children will have the opportunity to work and develop their skills using apparatus. The focus in dance is control and strength and musicality. We will also look at a variety of fundamental movement skills. We end the term looking at target games concentrating on accuracy and team building.

### Geography & History

We continue our topic on the Great Fire of London and compare it to the lesser-known Great Fire of Gateshead! Following that we return to Geography and our 'Exploring the World' topic where we learn about many different countries around the world.



**ART / DT** Our lovely areas of learning this term will give us lots of opportunity to develop our art skills. To celebrate Chinese New Year, we will develop our paper weaving and folding, making Chinese lanterns and dragons. We also use water-colours and inks to develop painting skills. After half-term, we continue our sewing skills and investigate hand puppets.

**Science** We begin with our topic 'Growth & Survival' learning which groups of animals lay eggs and which give birth to live young. We also learn about keeping healthy and clean. After half term we learn about electricity and begin to understand about simple circuits.

### Music

We continue to develop our knowledge of stick notation including crotchets, crotchet rests and quavers. We learn to play simple songs using musical notation. Mrs Taylor from TVMS will lead our music session.



**Computing** The children will be learning about questioning and how to use branching as well as using computer programs for data handling. We will move on to learn about effective and safe searching on the internet.

**PSHE** We begin the term looking at the community and how we care for each other and our world. We learn about the differences between their lives and others in the wider world. After half-term, we begin our keeping safe topic exploring comfortable and uncomfortable feelings, then fire and rail safety.