**Curriculum Newsletter Y2**



Welcome back after what we hope has been a lovely and relaxing Summer Break. We have been working hard over the summer to ensure the children have an exciting environment in which to learn and to this end, we wanted to outline some of the areas we will be focussing on over the coming term. The classrooms have been developed to incorporate all areas of learning. Alongside this, we’ve created and introduced an exciting, new writing room which will allow the children to be creative and explore their interests in a practical way. This experience will then be used to inspire their writing.

Typically, the children will be based with their class teacher – Miss West or Miss Gott; supported by Miss Breckon. Mrs Wood will be delivering Art lessons across the Year and DFC will continue to support in the teaching of the PE curriculum. Mr Newton will continue to inspire us with his music lessons.

Our main topic is based around the enquiry question: ‘If you go down in the woods today…. what might you find?’, which will then lead onto a topic based around London. This will be our main History and Geography focus for the term. Linked to this we will be providing a range of writing opportunities through our English work, including narrative, diary entries, newspaper articles, letters and persuasive writing. SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) will be taught in both discrete lessons and as part of the English session. We have attached the common exception words for Year 2 as well as an overview for the half term of the spelling rules we will be learning for you to support your child with at home. Please encourage your children to learn the rules using the examples given. We will also have a focus on the quality of writing and ‘beautiful work’. We have attached a copy of the cursive script and we encourage the children to adopt and ask that you support this in in any work they do at home.

Maths will follow the national curriculum for Year 2 and will primarily focus on the areas of Place Value, addition and subtraction and geometry. Much of this work will be practically based to allow the children to continue to develop their understanding of fluency, as well as providing opportunities for challenge and reasoning their mathematical understanding. If you haven’t already, and are able to, we would appreciate it if you could download White Rose ‘1 minute maths’ app (free of charge) which will allow children to develop their fluency in the 4 mathematical operations.

Computing work will focus on e-safety initially, before moving onto recognising uses of technology in the wider world. Art will focus on sketching skills and exploring different textures, patterns and shading, before moving into a Design Technology unit on tree houses.

Science will have an initial focus on plants and materials we obtain from them, before moving onto explore seasonal changes and the wild weather – in particular wind!

Your child will have PE twice a week. This will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, so please ensure that your child comes to school appropriately dressed.

Your child will shortly receive a reading record along with a reading book. We request that when the book has been read successfully, then please return them to school on or before THURSDAY when we will change them. Before sending any books back into school, please ensure that the book has been read at least twice (depending on the length of the book), that your child can discuss the book, make predictions about what might happen next and express their thoughts on the story. Children will also visit the school library, where they will have the opportunity to select a book they wish to read for pleasure. Guided Reading will be taught daily, and this will encompass phonics and comprehension skills. DEAR time (Drop Everything and Read) will also be provided each day.

For homework, we suggest that the children read daily, as well as working on spellings across the week. We will also send home either a maths / writing challenge weekly which supports children in their current learning at school. We ask that all homework is uploaded onto Class Dojo and we can respond as necessary. All Class Dojo accounts have been assigned to the new classes. If you are having trouble, then please speak to one of the team and will try our best to help.

We do acknowledge that some children enjoy taking their learning beyond the classroom and continuing this learning at home. To this end, we have designed a child-led homework challenge based around our topic. As our topic for this half term is Woodlands, the children might like to research some of the animals or trees they may find in a typical British Woodland, They might like to visit a woodland and think about what they can see and hear. They could produce art work, leaf rubbing etc.. the choice is theirs. We will support and encourage the children to generate ideas within school and then share and celebrate their learning with their peers when they share their work via Dojo. There is a selection of suggested tasks on the back of the topic knowledge organiser to have a go at. We look forward to an enjoyable and exciting term.

As always, if you have any questions then please speak to us at the end of the school day, or contact the school office and we will get back to you.

Year 2 Team

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