

## Year 2 Curriculum Letter - Autumn Term



Dear Parents/Carers,

**September 2024**

Firstly, I hope you had a fantastic summer break. As your children are all settling in to Year 2, we would like to share with you some of the exciting lessons and activities they will be taking part in this term. Below is a brief overview of our plans for this term in Year 2, which I hope you find useful.

**English** – This term we will be writing narratives about personal experiences and those of others. Following this we'll write instructions on how to make friends with a ghost, focusing on writing in chronological order and using commas in lists. A large focus this term is correctly using punctuation such as full stops and capital letters as well as developing a strong understanding and use of adjectives and nouns. Towards the end of the half term, we will be studying list poems from a range of poets focusing on our use of exciting adjectives. Improving our handwriting will be ongoing, as will phonics and spelling.

**Phonics and Guided Reading** – The children will continue to participate in either a daily phonics and guided reading session through Read Write Inc. (RWI) or a spelling and guided reading session. Children are heard reading at school during RWI/guided reading sessions and may also read individually to adults when possible – this may not be recorded in your child's reading record. It's important that you continue to please listen to your child read as often as you can, at least 3 times a week, remembering to ask them questions about the book to improve their reading and comprehension.

**Mathematics** - In mathematics this term we will begin with some work on number fluency to 20. We will cover place value, counting on and back in ones and tens, ordering and comparing numbers to 100, mental addition and subtraction, finding unknown numbers on a number line and later finding comparisons between numbers and measures. The children will use a lot of concrete resources to complete their work and will be encouraged to draw and explain their working throughout.

**Science** - Our topic for Science this term is Materials. The children will identify and compare everyday materials, thinking about the best material for particular uses. They will also investigate how the shape of solid materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. This topic will help develop the children's scientific vocabulary and continue to build their knowledge in science.

**Topic** - Our main focus topic this half term is History, we will be covering The Great Fire of London and the Plague. Children will learn about the main events across a timeline followed by why the fire spread and how it stopped. They will compare London in 1666 to now and look at how different areas of life have changed. After half term we will move on to a Geography topic called 'Similarities and Differences' which looks at the comparison between the UK and other countries in the world.

**Art and Design and Technology** – In Art the children will be focusing on exploration of observational drawing skills and considering how we can find inspiration in the world around us. In Design and Technology, we will be looking at cooking and nutrition as part of a balanced diet. This will cover naming the main food groups, describing types of food and at the end of term, constructing a healthy wrap.

**Computing** – Computing lessons will be taught as a blocked, whole week of lessons later in the half term. We will start with an exciting introduction to simple coding, which will help the children to develop an understanding of algorithms, and later be able to write and develop and debug simple programs. The children will then learn about how to search for something safely online and begin to understand what a digital footprint is and why it is important to think about the things that we share online.

**Music** – Dragon of the North will be teaching the music curriculum following the appropriate KS1 National Curriculum objectives.

**R.E.** – In R.E. lessons children will be using the resource 'Understanding Christianity' to explore the concept of 'Creation' from Genesis 1 in the Bible. We will explore the Creation story and discuss how God wants people to care for our world. In R.E lessons we will discuss, write and draw to explore the subject.

**P.E.** – Year 2 P.E. sessions will take place on *Monday and Tuesday*. Children should wear their PE kit to school on these days, including suitable outdoor clothing and footwear when appropriate. In P.E we will be covering Dance with links to our History topic and also developing agility and co-ordination as well as running, jumping, throwing and catching.

*Please ensure that ALL items of clothing are labelled with your child's name, anything not labelled may not be returned to you.*

**Homework** – The focus for homework will be reading/phonics and Maths.

- **Reading/Phonics** – Your child should read their school books *at least 3 times a week*. Please also encourage your child to read other books they have chosen and enjoy, this can also be recorded in their reading record. Please note, reading records are not used to record every time your child reads in school as this happens regularly.
- **Maths** – Math's homework will alternate between online and book activities. All homework will be set and explained more specifically on google classrooms. *All of your child's log ins will be accessible on Google Classrooms and also stuck into the front of their reading records.* If you are uncertain about anything please don't hesitate to contact me.

*Online maths homework* will be set on maths.co.uk. Your child will have an individual login for this. The activities are set based on your child's Maths skills and results will be analysed in school to support our class assessment and planning. This will not be 'marked' in the traditional sense as this is done online. *Book maths homework* will be an activity based on what your child is learning in school at the time or will be an essential skill that needs a little more work. There will be a worked example, and then 2 or 3 challenge levels. Your child can choose their challenge level based on their confidence in that particular area of maths. Using activities which align with the learning in school, supports the children's retention of skills and also gives you a chance to see the range of vocabulary and strategies your children are using in the classroom.

- **Spellings** – We will be focusing on a different set of spellings each week in class. This is not a part of the children's homework but all information can be found on google classrooms under Spellings.

Finally, I would like to say I am very much looking forward to teaching Year 2. This will be my first year at Potten End CofE Primary I am thrilled to be working with such a lovely class. In year 2 we will be joined by our fantastic Teaching Assistant, Mrs Jade Clarke who is very much looking forward to getting to know the children and working with them alongside me this year.

I hope this information is useful to you in supporting your child in Year 2 and I look forward to getting to know you all throughout the year. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions or concerns.

Miss M Williams  
Year 2 Class Teacher