



Autumn Term Newsletter 2024

Year 2

**'With Christ as our guide,
we inspire and thrive.'**

Welcome: Welcome back to the start of the school term! Our Year 2 team this year consists of Mrs Johnson, Mrs James (Wednesdays) and Mrs Lonsdale and we are all looking forward to working with you and your children this year. For your information, PE will take place on Mondays so children will need to arrive in school dressed in their PE kits. Book change will be on a Monday, but we ask for reading books and records to be brought into school every day so that we can listen to your child read. We encourage children to read daily at home and it is a school requirement that children have at least 3 adult signatures each week in their reading records to indicate that they have read at home. If you have any questions, then please feel free to speak to any of us.

Religious Education: During the Autumn Term we will be using the RE curriculum; To Know You More Clearly.

We will be working on Branch 1 – Creation and Covenant. We will be reading the scripture about Noah, focusing on God's covenant (promise) with Noah and all living beings in the sign of the rainbow. We will be learning that Baptism is the first sacrament which welcomes people into the Christian family and will be exploring ways in which we can show care for God's world (stewardship) as part of our care for each other.

In the second half of the term, we will move onto Branch 2 – Prophecy and Promise. We will learn that the prophets and prophetesses communicate God's message inspired by the Holy Spirit. We will explore that the season of Advent is the season when Christians prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas and how Catholic Social Teaching can help to guide Christians to 'share the light' with others.

RSE: The theme is 'To understand what makes someone feel proud' and we will be teaching this through the book, 'The Odd Egg,' by Emily Gravett.

Mathematics: Below are the main areas that we will be covering in the Autumn term and all skills learned are applied in real-life contexts.

Counting, recognising and partitioning numbers to 100.

Estimating numbers and counting in 2's, 3's, 5's and 10's.

Understanding fact families including number bonds to 10 and 20, adding tens to make number bonds to 100 (i.e. 80+20) and using number bonds to 10 to make addition easier.

Spelling: Spelling will be taught through the Pathways to Spell Curriculum. We will be focussing on spelling Year 2 Common Exception Words and will be starting to learn some of the Year 2 spelling rules when adding suffixes to words. For example, adding -s, -es, -ed and -ing to words. (i.e. 'kiss' – 'kisses')

Phonics: Children still accessing phonics will continue to be taught from the Supersonic Phonic Friends curriculum to recap phonemes taught in Year 1 plus Year 1 spelling rules.

Reading: We will be reading 'The Troll' by Julia Donaldson and 'Above and Below' by Hanako Clulow. We will be learning to make inferences based on what is being said and done (reading between the lines). We will also be learning to discuss the sequence of events in books and how items of information are related. We will also be exploring that non-fiction books are structured in different ways.

Writing: We will use the text 'Troll Swap' by Leigh Hodgkinson where we will be learning to write a story with a focus on the characters. During the second half of the term, we will read 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark' by Jill Tomlinson where we will be writing a non-chronological report about owls.

Grammar: The grammar skills we will be focussing on are as follows: using the conjunctions 'because,' 'and' 'or' and 'but' to make longer sentences. Using expanded noun phrases to describe and specify (i.e. 'The cold, murky lake.')

Using full stops and capital letters and to use commas correctly in a list. Children will also be learning to add -ly to an adjective to turn it into an adverb.

How you can help at home: Read with your child daily and ask questions about the book as you read it. Encouraging your child to write wherever possible, ensuring that they use the correct punctuation and read back their sentences to check for sense. Practise counting forwards in 2's, 3's, 5's and 10's.

Science: The theme is 'Animals Including Humans' and we will be learning about the basic needs of animals, the importance of nutrition and how to have a healthy lifestyle. The second theme is 'Everyday Materials' and we will be learning about how the properties of materials can be changed, explaining why we use certain materials and comparing their uses.

Computing: The theme is 'IT Around Us' and 'Effective Searching'. We will be focusing on IT in the home and around us and how to make smart choices when using it. We will also be learning how to refine searches using the search tool and using digital technology to share work on Purple Mash to communicate and connect with others locally.

History: The theme is 'Local Area'. We will be learning about our heritage by using local sources, statues, timelines, artefacts and various sources.

Geography: The theme is 'Colder Climates.' We will use maps to locate places, find out why climates differ around the world and research facts about Antarctica.

Art: The theme is 'Explore and Draw' and we will be using graphite, handwriting pens, watercolours and wax resist and will be exploring using the shape of the page, and the way we arrange elements on the page, to create compositions which we like.

Music: The musical learning this term will involve exploring beat, rhythm, melody, echoes, call-and-response, playing tuned and untuned percussion instruments. Children will also be listening to music inspired by bird song and will be composing music using non-musical stimuli, creating music inspired by birds and birdsong, improvising and playing a solo on instruments.

PSHE: We will be exploring feelings and discussing when we feel happy and when we do not feel happy. We will also be learning about what growth mindset is and how to develop our abilities.

PE/Sport: The theme is 'Ball Skills' and we will be focussing on developing pupil's skills when sending and receiving a ball. We will then move onto a gymnastics theme where they will be learning to balance, travel and make different shapes with their bodies.

How you can help at home (in relation to the above subjects): Geography: go on a walk around your local area looking at the different types of buildings. Computing: discuss how your child can stay safe using technology in their own home and visit free websites such as thinkuknow.com. Ask your child to talk about the different subjects that they have been learning in class and to share with you what they have learned.