



St Mary & All Saints CE Primary School

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6th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope you had a wonderful summer break. We are delighted to welcome you back to the new academic year which promises to be a journey filled with learning, growth and wonderful experiences. This letter includes information about the curriculum areas that the children in Year 2 will be covering this term and information that you will require.

We have many exciting topics in Year 2 and this term our two overarching themes are 'Tiger in the Jungle' based on Henri Rousseau's art and 'Christmas is coming'.

Our timetable this term will have an English, phonics and mathematics focus during the morning, with foundation subjects taking place during our afternoon lessons. Mondays will be an exception to this when the children will have PE in the morning and English, phonics and maths in the afternoon. In addition, throughout the year, your child will take part in curriculum days that enhance their learning experience.

In English, we will begin by focusing on fantasy narrative writing, poetry and instructions. In Mathematics we will be working through National Curriculum objectives for Year 2, beginning with a focus on number and place value, addition and subtraction, and shape.

Other topics we will be studying are:

Science	Animals including humans
History	Christmas through the ages
Geography	Seasonal weather
Computing	E-Safety, Computer Skills, Christmas coding
Art	Digital jungle art using Picollage, exploring character's feelings using Chatterpix.
D.T.	Mechanisms - Wheels and Axels
P.E.	Netball, Football, Dance and Gymnastics
R.E.	Who should you follow? Should you wear religious symbols?
Music	Hands, Feet, Heart - celebrating and learning about South African Music.
PSHE	Being Me in My World

We will also have the opportunity to ask questions to a visitor through our RE learning and visit our local Church to learn more how Easter is celebrated.

Home Learning

Your child will receive weekly maths and spellings tasks. These tasks will be set every Monday and will be due for submission the following Monday. In addition to these, we are introducing a new initiative called the "Buffet of Learning." At the start of each half term, your child will be given a selection of learning opportunities across a variety of subjects. From this, they can choose one task each week to complete and submit by the following Monday.

Interim Headteacher
Mrs J Butler BA (Hons) PGCE
NPQH

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More detailed information, including the rationale and the submission of tasks, will be provided by Mrs. Butler during the 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Monday 16th September. We strongly encourage you to attend to learn more and ask any questions you may have.

The children's spelling lists correspond with the spelling rules the children are being taught in their English lessons. These spellings are split into 3 groups; Must, Should and Could. All children are expected to learn the 'Must' spellings; they will be directed by the class teacher to learn the 'Should' or 'Could' spellings if they are ready.

Children will begin working on their Numeracy Passport in Year 2. These will be explained during our Meet the Teacher meeting. The children will be expected to practise their passport objectives and times tables regularly at home.

Reading

Research shows that reading is paramount in children's learning. It is important that you find ten minutes every day to read with your child and record that you have done so in your child's reading diary. Listening to your child read each day will greatly support their learning and enjoyment. Books will be changed on a Monday and Thursday. The children will receive a decodable phonics book and a sharing book until they have read all the phonics books. At this stage, the children will receive two sharing books. The purpose of the sharing books is to expose the children to a wide variety of texts which can be shared and read with an adult. Your involvement is key to their reading success.

Our carefully selected suggested reads for Year 2 are as follows:

1. Hodgeheg by Dick King Smith
2. Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book by Lauren Child
3. The Worst Witch by Jill Murphy
4. Pumpkin Soup by Helen Cooper
5. The Enchanted Wood by Enid Blyton
6. Not Now, Bernard by David McKee
7. The Giraffe, the Pelly and Me by Roald Dahl
8. Emily Brown and the Thing by Cressida Cowell
9. Mr Majeika by Humphrey Carpenter
10. Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman
11. The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson
12. The 13-storey treehouse by Andy Griffiths

Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

Personal social and emotional development (PSED) forms a key part of our curriculum each term. Teaching personal development is vital in many ways. It helps children develop a positive sense of themselves, independence, respect for others, social skills, emotional well-being and a positive disposition to learning. This term your child will be taught about their place in the world and recognising and celebrating differences as part of our PSHE curriculum. In Autumn 2, all children will take place in 'Anti-Bullying week', a week dedicated to sending a clear and positive message that bullying is neither acceptable nor inevitable in our schools and communities.

Finally, across the school, pupils are given the opportunity to perform key roles to both develop their leadership skills and sense of responsibility or teamwork. These responsibilities increase as children progress through the different year groups. In Year 2 pupils take on the following whole school roles:

- School council – as voted for by their peers
- Playground Monitors
- Classroom Monitors

PE and Games

So we can maximise learning time, children should come to school on their scheduled PE days in their PE kit. PE kits will no longer be kept at school. Year 2's PE day will be a Monday.

SEND

We are committed to removing barriers to enable every child to fulfil their learning potential. We follow the Graduated Approach to supporting additional needs, meaning that the level of support is based upon the needs of the child. We track the progress of each individual closely using our termly assessments, teacher judgement and other resources as necessary, in order to identify a particular child's needs as early as possible. Any support or interventions your child receives will be detailed on the parent evening proformas and, in the case of a child on a SEN plan or EHCP, it will also be listed on their plan. If you have any concerns about your child's progress, please talk to the class teacher in the first instance. Should you have further concerns, Mrs Levin, our SENDCo, is always available and can be contacted via the school office. Our school SEND policy and SEND Information report can be found on our school website.

We are looking forward to the year ahead and will provide more details during the 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Monday 16th September. We are committed to enhancing our partnership with you to support your child's development. Please be reminded that we maintain an open-door policy and are readily available to address any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs McAulay, Mrs Bayless and Miss Lucas
Y2 Class Teachers