

Autumn Term 2 Newsletter – Year 1 and 2

Hello and welcome back! Both Mrs Waldon and I hope you have had a fabulous half term and managed to get some rest and have some fun. We are now entering a very exciting time of the year and we cannot wait!

Below is a brief outline of the topics we are covering within this half term, which should hopefully provide you with an insight as to what we are doing day-to-day at school. We are covering some really exciting topics within the upcoming weeks – hopefully they will provoke as much excitement as our ‘Maps’ topic which lots of children were fascinated with. So, our topic for this half term is...Explorers!

<p>English</p>	<p>Year 1: Within our English lessons this half term we will be building upon our topic of Explorers. After such a successful start to the beginning of the year we will be continuing to implement the basics of sentence writing, letter formation and presentation expectations. Then we will start to delve deeper into some story writing, again, this will be based around our Explorer topic. Within our story writing project, we will not only be looking at story telling itself but making sure that we are writing accurately and checking that it makes sense – making sure that there are not any words missing! We will build our skills up slowly and gradually to help develop our description to ensure that our stories are a thrilling read!</p> <p>Year 2: Much like Year 1, we are starting off our busy half term thinking about our Explorers topic and writing a letter to a character from our key text to make sure that we are able to write in the past tense along with being able to set out a letter properly. Following this, we will be focusing on some poetry about exploring – helping us to build up a bank of poetry specific skills to showcase in our individual poems. Within our daily English lessons we will also continue working on spelling common exception words, how to add suffixes to words, punctuate correctly and when to appropriately add in conjunctions.</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>Year 1: To start off the beginning of the half term, we will be finishing our topic on Addition and Subtraction for numbers within 10, more specifically, focusing on subtraction. Following this we will be learning about Geometry and Shapes followed by Number and Place Value within 20. Similarly to last half term, we will be building these new skills through a variety of different processes and methods during our Maths lessons. We will be developing our mathematical understanding by using concrete materials such as cubes or counting toys to help us gain a more secure understanding of the concepts we will cover in the upcoming weeks.</p> <p>Year 2: Within our Maths sessions this half term we will continue developing our Addition and Subtraction by continuing to use the column method to make sure that we perfect our presentation, making sure we do not miss any steps and continue developing our mental maths skills. Following the topic of Addition and Subtraction we will then explore the topic of Money. We will first begin looking at what certain coins look like, how we can count money accurately and even add and subtract different amounts of money! As if this wasn't enough for us to be getting on with, we will also be beginning to introduce multiplication and division.</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>To continue our learning from our last science week, we will be investigating that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults, think about and describe the basic needs of an animal and also humans – such as water, food and air – and also start looking at the importance of exercise for humans and eating the right amount of different types of food!</p>
<p>PSHE</p>	<p>Our PSHE topic for the majority of the upcoming weeks will be, first finishing off our sub-topic of Media Literacy and Digital Resilience. Within this, we will be discussing and exploring the idea that what we see/the content of the internet, is not always factual and some things we see are for entertainment such as videos, games and the news. We will also be exploring that some</p>

	<p>information online might not always be true and where we can find some reliable resources/websites for our age group – such as BBC Bitesize or even CBBC who produce some brilliant factual videos!</p> <p>Following this we will start looking at Money and Work – discussing things such as what money actually is, our needs and wants and also learning about how to look after money. Within this topic we will also start to develop our understanding of cash, debit cards and electronic payments, about how we get money, look after it and even how we spend it. We will also discuss our understanding about how people work and get paid money for the jobs they do, how to recognise the difference between needs and wants and how people make choices about spending money, including how they think about needs and wants.</p>
RE	<p>Our RE topic for this half term will be thinking about <i>Does Everyone Celebrate the Same Special Occasions?</i> Within this topic we will be thinking about a range of celebrations within the Christian calendar but also think about some that are celebrated by other religions and if they are celebrating the same event, are there any similarities or differences?</p>
<p>Topic:</p> <p>History, ICT & DT</p>	<p>History: To hopefully continue the excitement for our Topic sessions we will start with Explorers! Within these sessions we will be learning about significant people in history, deciding and discussing what this actually means and how people become a significant person in history or possibly, even some people who are still alive today. What have they done that makes them a significant person? How/why will we remember them? Following our discussions about who is significant and why/why not – we will start looking at certain explorers such as Matthew Henson and Felicity Aston and think about the differences and similarities between their journeys to the Arctic.</p> <p>Computing: We will start to develop our computer skills within this half term by learning how to log onto a Chromebook, use the application Paint and also start to Program Beebots.</p> <p>DT: Within our DT sessions towards the end of the term we will be looking at Pictures in Motion, thinking about how we can make things move using pictures and figurines.</p>

PE:

Our PE days will remain as a Tuesday and Thursday – please remember to send your child in with the appropriate uniform such as proper trainers, a school PE hoodie, shorts or jogging bottoms. PE is generally outside and therefore, with the weather well and truly on its way to winter, please can we make sure that children are coming to school with a hoodie and a coat.

HOMEWORK:

Year 1: We will continue our weekly spelling regime – it really is so fantastic to see you working so incredibly hard at home with your spellings. I will continue to stick spellings into reading records on a Monday and our test will be on a Friday. We will also continue our expectation of 5x at home reading each week – which, will of course, go towards your bookmarks! As we have now settled so well into our Year 1 classroom, I will now be handing out handwriting homework too. This will be sent out on a **Monday** and be expected to be in the following **Monday**.

Year 2: We will also be continuing our weekly spelling regime – spellings will be given out on a Monday and then we will have an in-class test on a Friday. Much like the last half term, I will also continue sticking the spellings into reading records for ease and convenience. The expectation of reading 5x a week will also remain and I will continue filling in your book marks as we go through the week! We will now start to add some additional homework for Year 2 with the implementation of Times Table Rock Stars – beginning with our 2 times table. You will need to be accessing Times Tables Rock Stars 3x a week and as per the Year 2 homework expectations. Homework will be set on a **Monday** and expected to be in the following **Monday**.

JUMPERS!

Just a little reminder – please, please, please put your child’s name inside their school jumpers and PE hoodies. Both Mrs Waldron and I have a collection of jumpers in the classroom with no names. If you think you might have lost one over last half term – please just let us know and you can sift through the long, lost and lonely forgotten jumper box from Year 1 and 2!

We cannot wait to welcome you into our final half term before Christmas!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us either by email, telephone call or just a quick conversation outside either in the morning or after school, it is never a problem.

Kindest regards,

Miss Jupp and Mrs Waldron.