

## **Year 2 Autumn Term Newsletter**

Welcome back to our wonderful Year 2 children! We hope you had a lovely summer and are excited for the year ahead.

### **English**

This term we will build on our sentence work from Year 1, focusing on capital letters, full stops and sentence structure. Children will develop their writing by using expanded noun phrases and conjunctions to extend sentences. In Autumn 1, our writing will be inspired by stories linked to our Castles topic; in Autumn 2, we'll explore traditional tales, *Katie in London* for recount writing, and the work of Anthony Browne. Spelling will follow the new CUSP scheme with three short lessons each week, supported by weekly homework. Additional phonics sessions have been scheduled daily to build on the children's progress last year.

### **Maths**

We will start by exploring place value using number lines and partitioning two-digit numbers. We will practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s to build stamina for times tables. Later in the term, we'll focus on addition, subtraction, and 2-D/3-D shape, including vertices, edges and symmetry.

### **History & Geography**

In Autumn 1 our topic is *Kings, Queens and Castles*. We will explore why castles were built, how they developed, and what life was like for the people who lived in them. In Autumn 2, we'll study *Around the UK*, identifying the countries and capital cities, before moving on to map making and compass directions.

### **Science**

Our first unit is *Living Things and Their Habitats*, investigating life processes, animal needs and different habitats. We'll also link to plants at the end of the half term. In Autumn 2, our focus shifts to *Materials*, looking at their properties and suitability for different uses. Mrs Flintoft will be in for the first part of Wednesday morning each week to lead these sessions.

### **PE, RE, Art, PSHE and Music**

PE will be on Monday and Friday, developing fundamentals of speed, balance and agility in a range of contexts, including dance, gymnastics and ball skills. RE and Art will be taught by Mrs Fenn on Thursday afternoons. In RE, children will consider many topics, for example, why Jewish families talk about repentance at New Year. In Art, they will explore printing techniques, textiles, dip dye and block prints. PSHE sessions help the children make sense of their place in the world, and includes topics such as rights and responsibilities, and respecting our similarities and differences. Mr Cole will take Music sessions on Monday mornings, and we are excited to present a nativity to you later in the term.

### **Home Support**

Reading books will be issued very soon, along with some suggestions for home learning. We will also be using Numbots to help us develop our maths skills.

We are expertly supported in Year 2 by skilled and experience teaching assistants in Mrs Bird (Monday-Friday), Mrs Woodward (Monday to Wednesday) and Mrs Gower (Thursday and Friday). Please check Class Dojo and the class webpage for curriculum information, updates, homework and photos of our learning.

I am really looking forward to a fantastic Autumn term,

**Mr Mabbitt**