

Class 2 Newsletter – Autumn 2023

Welcome to our Class Two newsletter for the new school year! All your gorgeous little ones have settled so well into their new class routines and are doing absolutely amazing! We have had such a fantastic start to this academic year! This newsletter is to give you an idea of the areas which we will be learning about in Class Two this coming term.



Maths

In Maths this term we are learning all about the place value of number. Year 1 children will focus on deepening their understanding of numbers to 10 and year 2 will initially focus on numbers to 20 before applying their knowledge to numbers to 100. This will allow the children to really embed that important knowledge of numbers so that they can quickly use this when dealing with greater numbers further up the school. Later on we will move on to addition and subtraction before ending the term learning about shape.

English

Daily phonics sessions will continue for year 1, with year 2 moving on to learn spelling rules once they are secure with their phonics. Phonics is taught through our Active Learn “Bug Club” systematic phonics programme to help develop the children’s understanding of Letters and Sounds.

We will also be reading a variety of books during the day, often linked to our topic, and these will be both picture story books as well as chapter books. We are very keen to foster a real love of books and reading!

Our writing will often be linked to these books and we will be learning how to write to entertain and also to inform by composing postcards, writing instructions and retelling and innovating stories.

Spelling tests will happen every Friday, with new spellings being given the same day for the following week.

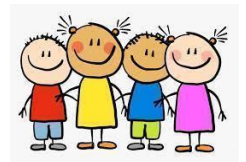


Science

In science we will first be learning to identify and describe the basic structure of common flowering plants. We will undertake some science experiments that put our senses to the test and develop our ‘working scientifically skills’ as we plan, carry out and draw conclusions from these. We will then move on to learning about different animal groups and how to classify animals in different ways.

PSHE

This area focuses on personal, social and emotional skills. It is a key area of our curriculum and we follow a scheme of lessons to assist in developing these areas. This term our particular focus for our main sessions is ‘family and relationships’, although there are many different aspects of our week and lessons which also focus on developing personal, social and emotional skills outside of this designated time.



Topic (Geography/ History)

This term we will focus on geography. In particular we will be learning about our local area, looking at physical features and landmarks. We will examine aerial photographs of our area and look at and create our own maps.



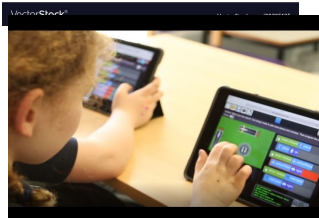


Art/DT /Music

In DT we will be learning about different types of structures found in the natural world and in everyday objects. We will be designing, creating and testing structures to ultimately make a 'chair for a teddy bear to sit in'.

In Art and Design we will be experimenting with a range of mark making techniques using a range of different media and colours. We will use this knowledge to complete a self portrait.

In Music we will be learning songs and finding out about rhythm and pulse in a piece.



Computing

Mr Moss will be teaching computing fortnightly in class two. We are very lucky to have access to lots of iPads and laptops at school. This term, we will be looking at how to use these, including switching them on, logging on and completing various activities using a range of functions, websites and apps, such as Purple Mash. This will sometimes be linked to other areas of the curriculum, such as using Google Earth.

RE

In RE we will start the term by considering the question 'who is a Muslim and what do they believe?'. This will be through sharing stories and thinking about which objects are sacred to Muslims. Towards Christmas, we will remember the Christmas story and focus our learning on the significance of this to Christians.

PE

PE will take place on a Monday and Wednesday each week. Both these sessions will be working with a sports coach. We are continuing to follow our new scheme, which was started last year, called Real PE which focuses on teaching core skills which can be applied to all areas of movement and sport. During our Monday sessions we will be particularly focusing on Gymnastics skills this term.

Forest Schools

Forest Schools will take place on a Friday each week. Pupils are to come to school in their school uniform but bring each Friday a change of appropriate clothing for the weather to change into. Please ensure this change of clothing not only protects your child from the weather but also covers their arms and legs to protect them from possible scratches or stings. Forest schools will finish just before the end of the school day, therefore your child may come home in their forest school clothing. Please ensure this clothing is ready in their lockers for the following Friday.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILDREN AT HOME

It makes a huge difference if children are given the opportunity to read and share books with you at home, so any time you give to do this would be greatly appreciated! Reading books will be changed on a Friday. We encourage children to read their books several times to develop fluency, expression and comprehension skills. Children should be able to read around 90% of the words in their books fluently (without decoding), this helps to foster a love of reading as well as developing the range of reading skills children need to thrive, not just the phonic element. Please get in touch if you have any questions about this or would like more ideas on how to support your child with these aspects of reading. Children will have their books changed once a week, although some may keep theirs longer if they haven't yet had a chance to practise the skills mentioned above.

All children will receive spellings in their planner on a weekly basis. This will usually be a Friday and they will be tested on these the following Friday. These will be learnt in school, but practising these at home would be very helpful.

PE will be on Monday and Wednesday, please come to school in PE kits those days. Forest School will be on a Friday for all Class 2 pupils, please ensure a change of clothing and wellies are in school for this day.

Please could we ask that you complete your child's planner daily to let us know how they will be getting home (ie Collected; After school club; Askham Bryan bus; Bilbrough bus).

Thank you!

As always, please do get in touch via email or phone and we'll get back to you as soon as possible.
Our email addresses are a.holliday@stmarysprimaryschool.co.uk and a.batchelor@stmarysprimaryschool.co.uk