



# Year 2 Newsletter Autumn Term

Welcome back to another busy term at SMSP. We hope you all had a lovely summer and are relaxed and raring to go! The following is a brief outline of the curriculum between now and Christmas.

## English

This term in English we will be looking at poetry, stories with familiar settings, diary entries, recipes and instructions. The children will develop their writing in a variety of contexts across the curriculum. There is a strong emphasis in Year 2 on correct spelling, punctuation, grammar and handwriting. We will constantly focus on these in every element of our work. The children will learn spelling patterns in our regular phonics sessions. The children will continue to bring home their book bags and will read in class with either the class teacher, classroom assistant or any parent helpers. One of our main focuses in reading will be adding expression when reading aloud, reading fluently and developing comprehension skills.

## Maths

Our main focus in Maths this half term will be number. We will be sequencing, adding and subtracting to 100 using practical apparatus and mental calculation strategies. We will be learning to recall addition facts to 20 and related subtraction facts. The children will learn about place value and properties of numbers.

We will also look at time (o'clock, half past, quarter past, quarter to and 5 minute intervals, shape (names and properties of 3D shapes), and money (adding, subtracting and giving change). Throughout the year the children will be learning number facts and counting in 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s and 10s and will be encouraged to investigate the relationships between the main operations.

## Science

Our topic for this half term is The Circle of Life and we will learn about characteristics of living things, animals and their off spring, medicine and how we grow. Next half term we will be developing scientific investigation skills including predicting, fair testing, measuring, recording and analysing results.

## Topic

In topic we will be investigating key figures that have made an impact on medicine and healthcare. We will look at some historical figures such as Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole alongside medics who help us in the present day. After half term children will be developing their geographical world knowledge to include the continents, major seas, countries and capital cities. This will be linked to Christmas traditions around the world. If anyone has any interesting books or artefacts at home we would love to see them.

## PE

Over the next term we will be using the large apparatus to explore travelling, balancing, jumping, movement and performance. Every class will have half a term each of football coaching, rugby or street dance lessons run by Kick London the PE coaches who work alongside us in school.



## R.E

We will start this half term thinking about different Jewish Festivals and how they are celebrated. Next half term we will be looking at the ten commandments and the symbol of light in relation to Christmas.

## Computing

The children have weekly visits to our computing suite where they will be consolidating their general ICT skills of locating, opening and closing programs, saving work, keyboard knowledge and mouse control. They will be learning to give instructions in a control programme and to record data using their computing skills. They will learn how simple computer games are constructed and will develop their awareness of internet safety.

## Music

The children will be exploring rhythm and pitch using a variety of percussion instruments. The children will also have the opportunity to respond to music in a variety of ways and we will continue with our weekly singing assemblies and class music sessions.

## Art and D&T

We will be studying the topic of sculpture, looking at a variety of well known work. We will continue to develop the use of a variety of mediums as well as learning new techniques and styles of working. In D&T we will be designing and constructing sculptures using a variety of materials.

## P.S.H.E

This term through stories, activities and games we will focus on developing our co-operation and friendship skills. Through role play, stories and discussion we will be exploring SMSPs school values and issues that affect us in our daily lives.



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Homework

Children will bring home their reading diary and a book of their current colour band. Over the next few weeks we will be assessing all children and moving them up a level where appropriate. We will set regular maths activities using the Abacus login that your child received in Year 1. These are optional activities that consolidate the learning that has taken place in the classroom. Occasionally this might be the directed task for the week and we will let you know this via email. The children will receive weekly spelling investigations and a maths worksheet. We will send this home with a fuller explanation on Thursday 21st September.

### How you can help

Many thanks to those of you who have already expressed an interest in helping out in the classroom. We would love to have parents in to help particularly with reading and general classroom support. There will be a sign up sheet on classroom doors when help is needed. We have lots of creative activities planned and we would really appreciate donations of glue sticks. As the weather gets colder, noses get runnier, a box of tissues would also be gratefully received. During the year we will be pointing you towards various websites to help support your child's learning at home.

### Developing Independence

In Year 2 children are responsible for bringing any correspondence to and from school. They may bring in a small rucksack. The children may also bring in a pencil case to keep in their tray. Please make sure it is named clearly and no Sharpies please! We look forward to a great year working in partnership with you.

The Year 2 Team

Mrs Hunt, Miss Tucker and Miss Terry