

Curriculum Newsletter



Year 2

Autumn Term

Important dates:

PE days – Thursday and Friday

Trip – Tamworth Castle October 15th.

Class Assembly- 2W and 2P TBC (Spring term)

Parents Evenings – Wednesday 9th October

Wednesday 16th October

Children in Need – Friday 15th November (details TBC)

Christmas Fayre – Wednesday 11th December

Nativity – 17th and 18th December 2pm

Christmas Dinner – 18th December

Welcome to our first curriculum newsletter! These will be handed out each half term and let you know what learning will be taking place over the following few

weeks. This will help you to participate in your child's learning journey as we will also give you ideas for activities that can extend their learning and help them progress further.

If you have any questions about what your child is learning, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the year 2 team who will be happy to help you! If you have any questions about what your child is learning, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the year 2 team who will be happy to help you!

The year 2 team consists of Mr. Warlow, Miss Passman, Mrs Sumner and Miss Jarrett

Maths

This half term in Maths we will be exploring number and place value. It is important that children have a secure understanding of numbers and their physical representations in order for them to manipulate these numbers through calculating and problem solving

We will be looking at

- Counting and writing numbers up to 100, including the words.
- Partitioning numbers into tens and ones (formerly units)
- Showing numbers in different pictorial representations
- Placing numbers on a blank number line
- Using different number combinations to make a 2-digit number.

You can help your child progress by:

- Counting objects at home in groups of ones, twos, fives and tens
- Writing out numbers using the correct spellings
- Matching numbers to their words and pictorial representations of them.
- Discussing 2 digit numbers and what the digits in the number are worth
- Drawing a number line with 0 at one end and 100 at the other. Give them numbers to place on there where they think they might go. Talk about why they think this and why they are right/wrong.
- Give your child a "target" two-digit number. Give them another smaller number. Get them to work out what number needs to be added. E.g target number is 56, I have 35, what do I need to add to get to the target?
- It will also greatly benefit all children to practice their times tables as often as possible. By the end of year 2, children should know their 2, 5 and 10 times tables, along with their corresponding division facts.
 - Give your children coins to count up, and ask them questions about money whilst shopping etc

Reading

Reading is a key aspect of children's learning and must be completed regularly. At Woodhouse we encourage reading for pleasure and reading a wide range of texts.

You can support your child by reading with them at least five times per week, even if it is just for five minutes. This can be their school reading book, or something they enjoy reading or sharing at home.

Along with learning the mechanics of reading, it is also important that children develop their understanding of what they read. The more you sit with your child and discuss what they have read, the more you will develop this skill.

This half term we will begin to teach the children how to read texts more independently. We will remind them of the skills they have learnt in reception and year one to decode words they are unsure of. They will be looking at questions on the text and how to find the answers to them in what they have read and using pencils to highlight where we find the answers.

This style of questioning will be sent home with weekly homework. If you have any questions relating to this, please don't hesitate to approach a member of the Year 2 team.

Writing

This half term we will look at various texts:

The Queen's Knickers – Nicholas Allan

The Knight Who Wouldn't Fight – Helen Docherty

George and the Dragon – Chris Wormell

King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table – Cartoon strip, author unknown

These texts fit within our topic this term, which is "Castles, Kings and Queens".

The children will be:

- *Exploring the themes of the books*
- Understanding the features of fiction and non-fiction texts
- Developing their sentence writing
- Using a wider range of punctuation (capital letters, full stops, commas, exclamation marks and question marks)
- Developing handwriting and beginning to join
- Planning and drafting descriptive writing

You can help your child progress by:

- Reading the texts at home and talking about them
- Looking up the meaning of words they are not sure of
- Let them write about subjects that interest them at home
- Write sentences for them without punctuation, ask them to add it
- Give them activities that will help with their fine motor skills; colouring, building with Lego, using chopsticks to pick up small items.

Spelling

This half term we will be building on the children's phonics work from year 1. We will begin by looking at the alternative sounds the graphemes they have previously learnt can make, for example "o" makes a different sound in cold than it does in hot. Each week we will learn a new rule and have new words to spell. A copy of this list will be sent home so that the children can practise them with you.

We will also be looking at the common exception words for year two. These are words which do not fit the rules of spelling.

Topic

This term we are exploring the theme of "Castles, Kings and Queens". The focus this half term will be the physical properties of castles and a history of some of the people who lived in them.

The children will explore:

- What castles look like and the names of the parts
- Why castles were built where they are
- 1066 and the events leading up to the Battle of Hastings
- The modern-day royal family and their impact in the world

We will also explore the geography of the UK, looking at maps and naming and locating the capital cities of each country. This could be supported by looking at maps together at home.

The children will also be visiting Tamworth Castle where they will be able to meet "Lord Tamworth" and learn about life in a castle for Medieval people.

They will explore the science unit "materials and their properties" through the theme of castles, investigating which materials would have been found in a castle and which materials would suit different purposes.

You can help your child progress by:

- Starting their terrific topic project. Find an element that interests them. Research it together and see where this takes you!
- Talk about materials around the home. What are they good for? What are their properties?
- Look at a world map or atlas. Discuss the difference between countries, continents, cities etc. Find places you have been or heard of.