

## **How can you help your child?**

### **With their learning...**

- Talk with your child about their school work, topics and the world around them.
- Hear your child read regularly and help them to learn spellings strategies.
- Visit the library and help your son/daughter to choose books to read for pleasure and to support their topics.
- Encourage them to use Mathletics, TT Rock Stars and Spelling Shed at home on a tablet or computer.
  - Please check your child's planner daily and initial it daily (in the weekly diary) to show that reading has been completed.
  - Sign the planner every week (at the bottom of the page) so that we know homework has been completed and that all communication between home and school has been shared.
  - Please help your child learn their times tables. You can find them in their planners. There are also plenty of APPs for tablets that are useful if used regularly – just search 'times tables'.

### **With practical issues...**

- Ensure that your child has the correct P.E. Kit in school every day.
- Children should wear a tie with winter uniform.
- Children should not wear nail varnish or jewellery (other than a watch and / or stud earrings) for school.
- Don't forget that if your child wishes to have their ears pierced, the best time is the beginning of the summer holidays as it is Dudley policy that children cannot wear any kind of earrings during PE lessons.
- Long hair should be tied up for safety reasons.
- Please ensure that all uniform is marked with the child's name.

### **Homework...**

- Homework will be set every Wednesday and is due to be completed by the following Tuesday.

# YEAR 2 NEWSLETTER

## London

### **Welcome to the first Year 2 newsletter of this academic year.**

This half term we will be focusing on London, past and present. The children will be covering important periods of history such as The Great Fire of London, The Plague and Gunpowder Plot; as well as more recent events such as the 2012 Olympics and the opening of the London Eye. We will start our topic with the help of Paddington. Paddington will arrive from Peru and will live with the Brown family in London. He will be helping us compare the differences between London in the 1600's to now, looking at how building techniques, architecture, safety regulations and innovative ideas have changed and influenced the places we live in. We will then be comparing London to Kingswinford, using the Gunpowder Plot to link the two.

**This curriculum newsletter explains the activities and curriculum areas that we plan to cover during this term. We would love the topic to be led by the children and so these ideas may be subject to change as we find the areas most interesting to the children.**

Many thanks,

**Mr Wade, Mrs Cartwright and Miss Jordan**

## Geography

Our new topic will start by exploring where we live in the world. The children will look at the United Kingdom and how it is made up of four countries. They will investigate the capital cities of these four countries and be encouraged to use geographical vocabulary to compare and contrast places in the UK.

We will focus most of our work around London and its famous Landmarks.

**Please help your child to learn their full address including postcode.**

## History

This topic is heavily focused on History. The children will learn all about some British Monarchs present and past, and explore the life of our Queen. They will look at 17<sup>th</sup> century London and make comparisons to life today. They will learn about significant, historical events to include The Gunpowder Plot and The Great Fire of London.

## Religious Education

This term we will introduce the children to Hinduism and the festival of Diwali. We will look at how we can respect others beliefs.

## Maths

We follow the White Rose Hub Programme of Study, linked to the 2014 National Curriculum objectives. This term we will be focusing on number and place value, as the building blocks of all Maths learning. We will then look at addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

## English

We will be applying a range of our grammatical skills to different genres of writing. We will be looking at the four different types of sentences and the necessary punctuation and applying these to different genres. Reading takes place daily in school so please ensure your child has their book and planner every day.

**We encourage strong home / school links. Please use the reading diary to record your child's progress. This helps to form part of their end of year assessment.**

## Science

We will be learning about 'Animals including Humans' in Science. Children will have the opportunity to learn about a range of animals, their characteristics and how to categorise them. They will also have the opportunity to learn about healthy conditions for growth in Humans and Animals, looking at healthy diets and hygiene as an important part of this.

## Computing

This term, the children will begin to learn about algorithms as sets of instructions in programs. They will learn to predict what simple programs will do and debug errors.

## For your attention:

**If you would like to share any messages with your child's class teacher then please write in the planner within the date sections. Please remember to order your child's lunch on School Grid for each day.  
Many thanks for your co-operation.**

## PE

P.E. days are Monday and Wednesday. However, these can be subject to change. This term we will be exploring games and gymnastics. Please ensure that your child has a full P.E kit in school and that long hair is tied back. **No jewellery is allowed to be worn, including earrings.** P.E kits will be sent home half termly for washing.

## PSHE

The children will be looking families, friendships and safe relationships. They will also continue to learn about children's rights exploring some of the articles contained in the convention booklet.

## Music

Children in Year 2 will be learning about melody, dynamics and musical scores.

## Design and technology

The children will exploring a variety of materials and will be making items such as a Diva lamp and puppets.

## Art & Design

The children will explore portraits and create their own portrait of our Queen using pencils, watercolour wash background and pastels. They will produce a collage of a Tudor house using mixed media.