



Year 2 Newsletter Autumn Term 2020

English

In class, there will be individual and group reading activities. The girls will be developing their independent reading skills and will be encouraged to make appropriate book choices themselves. They will use the library to develop their research skills. The girls are expected to read at home and the yellow reading record continues to be used to communicate their progress on a daily basis. In handwriting, the girls will focus on joining their writing and your daughter should practise this at home. We will work with the Read Write Inc spelling scheme that the girls will do in class. During lessons, all pupils are encouraged to 'have-a go' and attempt a spelling before it is given to them or they use a dictionary/their log book. Through literacy, girls will be exploring themes such as 'familiar settings', 'poetry: patterns on the page' and 'traditional tales'.



Mathematics

The lessons will often be practical and girls will be encouraged to think about application and method: 'What is this question asking me to do?' 'Can I explain how I reached my answer?' At this stage, a solid understanding of how to put numbers together and take them apart is more important than working at speed. Girls will be building their confidence with addition and subtraction within 1000, they will also begin to look at word problems. Please encourage your daughter to continue this practice whenever possible. It is important to make maths work fun, practical and relevant so that the girls can begin to understand how Mathematics is used in everyday life. Following on from this we will look at multiplying and dividing by 2 and 3. You can support your daughter at home by sharing out objects, for example, pieces of pasta.



Science

This term, we will be looking at 'Materials and Change.' The girls will be using scientific thinking skills to carry out practical activities. They will develop recording skills and learn how to organise information into charts and tables.

PSHE

This year, the girls will be introduced to Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE. Jigsaw is a progressive and spiral scheme of learning. This term our themes are 'Being in My World' and



'Celebrating Differences' (including anti-bullying).

Being in My World: the girls will discuss their hopes and fears for the year ahead – they will talk about feeling worried and recognising when they should ask for help and who to ask. They will talk about rights and responsibilities; how to work collaboratively, how to listen to each other and how to make their classroom a safe and fair place. The girls will talk about choices and the consequences of making different choices and make the Jigsaw Charter.

Celebrating Differences: the girls will talk about gender stereotypes, that boys and girls can have differences and similarities and that is OK. They will talk about children being bullied because they are different, that this shouldn't happen and how to support a classmate who is being bullied. The girls will talk about feelings associated with bullying and how and where to get help. They will talk about similarities and differences and that it is OK for friends to have differences without it affecting their friendship.



Computing

Our computing lessons will focus on developing keyboard skills. Your daughter will learn to present work by manipulating the font, size and colour of text. Computers and iPads will also be used to support our learning across the curriculum.

RE

This term we will be looking at 'Signs and Symbols' of the different religions, as well as focusing on the three wise men and the act of gift giving. We will look at the six main religions and their signs and symbols in some detail.

Topic Work

Castles will be our focus for the first half term and we will be visiting this topic across a variety of curriculum areas including History, Geography, English, Computing, Art and Design Technology. The children will explore a variety of castles and determine successful features as well as other features that may be a disadvantage. They will gain an insight into the lifestyle and understand what it may have been like to have lived in a castle. For the second half term our topic will be 'Nurturing Nurses' where we will be looking at the lives of the significant nurses Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacle and Edith Cavell. The girls will develop an awareness of these important women who have contributed to national and international achievements .



Art and DT

In Art, we will be investigating medieval illustration, working with clay and using collage. After half term in DT, we will be looking at healthy eating and the girls will be taking part in some practical cooking activities.

Drama

In Drama this term, the girls will be using a range of stories to explore the class topic with a focus on role-play, dialogue and characterisation. In the second half of the term, they will be working towards the KS1 Christmas Performance.

Spanish



work.

In Spanish, the girls start the academic year revising the topics learned in Year 1: greetings, names, alphabet, numbers, animals, fruits, months, days of the week, etc. They will also recap language that is useful when in the classroom. Girls will practise vocabulary using a variety of activities, increasing the amount of Spanish used by teachers and pupils alike. After half term, the linguistic emphasis shifts from oral to written

PE

In Physical Education all of the girls in Year 2 will be completing units of work in physical literacy and mini team games. They will develop the fundamental skills that children need such as running, hopping, throwing, catching and jumping. These movement skills in turn give the girls the confidence to participate in different physical activities, sports and games. All of the girls will be expected to understand and demonstrate the importance of a structured warm up and cool down, and know how to participate safely.

Forest School

Each week, both Year 2 classes will have an outdoor learning session. Forest School is an inspirational process that offers all learners regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self esteem through hands-on learning experiences in an outdoor environment. In 2M the girls will have Forest School on Wednesday afternoon and in 1E the girls will have Forest School on Thursday afternoon. The girls will need to bring their named Forest School clothing in a bag including their waterproofs. Wellies/outdoor shoes can stay at school. Be warned - they may be muddy!

Music

The girls will continue to sing their way through music, developing pitch and expression skills through learning a wide variety of songs to support their topic work. They will spend the second half of the term preparing for their Christmas performance.



If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to make contact through the School Office.

We very much look forward to working with you and your daughters this year.

Mrs Eliad and Miss McLennan
Year 2 Class Teachers