



## ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Headteacher: Mr M Ramsay B.A (Hons) Primary Education

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### Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter – Spring 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you have had a relaxing Christmas break. It's lovely to be back at school and to see everyone again. I am really looking forward to what is set to be a very busy and interesting term. I am delighted with the progress the children made last term and am confident that your child will continue to make super progress this term. Thank you for supporting your child with their daily reading, weekly homework and encouraging them to use the Rising Stars Planets and Numbots websites.

#### Homework

Your continued support with your child's learning makes such a big difference to the progress they make. Our homework expectations in Year 2 are 15 minutes of reading (either reading a book or using an online program) each school night, with one spelling task and three Mathletics tasks each week (checked on a Thursday after 6pm). These tasks should not take a lot of time and designed to be fun!

#### Reading

**Please remember to send your child to school with their book bag each day. Their home-school learning journal and reading book are checked daily.** Daily home reading makes a huge difference to the progress your child makes in all areas of the curriculum. Across the top of each page in your child's home learning journal are the reading strategies we teach your child to use if they come across an unknown word - ask your child about Tommy Tracker and Chunky Monkey. Instead of writing comments such as 'well read' or 'finished book', we would like you to choose a strategy and make your comment about that e.g. 'Bobby used Tommy Tracker to point to the words as he read' or, 'Sally came across the long word 'football' so she used Chunky Monkey to break it into two small words and read it easily'. Ask your child to explain the different strategies to you. I always enjoy reading the positive comments you write in their learning journals. As a class, we will be reading Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig by John Scieszka, and Voices in the Park by Anthony Browne. We will also have a focus on poems, including 'Who Has Seen the Wind by Christina Rossetti and Ning, Nang, Nong by Spike Milligan. World Book Day is 03.03.22 but we will be dressing up on Friday 04.03.22.

#### Handwriting

Using consistent, neat handwriting is extremely important. The expectation is that your child will be using joined up handwriting by the end of Year 2 and they will have a daily handwriting session in class. A copy of our letter formations and joins can be found on our school website [by clicking here.](#)

#### Writing

We will be learning about different word classes (noun, adjective, verb, adverb) and different sentence types (statements, questions, commands). We will also be learning how to use full stops, question marks

and exclamation marks appropriately and when to use subordinating conjunctions (because, when, if, that). As the term progresses, we will write for different purposes, including non-chronological reports on Captain James Cook; instructions on how to make a money purse and poetry focussing on rhymes. We will continue to encourage the children to draw upon their reading experiences and widen their vocabulary use.

## Spelling

In Year 2, we have 56 common exception words that your child are expected to learn to read and spell – can be found in your child’s Learning Journal. Use your Purple Mash 2do folder to find and practise your weekly spellings. **The weekly spelling test in class will be on Friday.**

## Maths

As the term progresses, we will be learning to multiply and divide within the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We will also be making totals using different coins and recognising properties on 2D and 3D shapes. The school continues to use White Rose Maths resources to embed problem solving opportunities into our daily maths lessons. **To complement their work in school, your child has access to the Numbots programme and they will be assigned three Mathletics tasks each week to complete at home.**

## Science

Our focus is on habitats, food chains and how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. The children will learn that plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.

## PHSE

We will learn about living in the wider world and belonging to a community.

## R.E

The children will be learning about two faiths. Firstly, we will focus on Islam and discuss who is Muslim and what they believe. After half term, we will look at Easter and why it is an important Christian festival.

## History

This term, Year 2 are learning about explorers. As a historical figure from the North East, we will focus on Captain James Cook.

## Geography

We will be learning about seasons and linking this to our science work on plants. This will include some exciting work in the school allotment.

## Art

Our focus this term is on painting and we will link this to our work on seasons and plants. The children will be studying work by the artists Andy Goldsworthy and David Hockney.

## P.E.

**These lessons take place on Wednesday and Thursday.** Firstly, we will be learning about sending and receiving objects and later in the term, the children will take part in dance lessons. The children need a PE



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kit of shorts, t-shirt and plimsolls. Thank you to all the parents who have named their child's kit. Your child's kit should stay in school until half term and then be sent home.

**IMPORTANT - Due to changes in health and safety guidance, we can no longer allow children to wear any form of earring during PE lessons. Please ensure that, if your child wears earrings, they are able to take them out independently or they may not wear earrings on PE days.**

### Parents' Evening

This will take place on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. We will issue more details about this nearer the time.

I am confident that we will have another very successful term, working together, to ensure your child achieves their full potential. Remember, if at any time you have a question or concern, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind Regards,

Mr Goldsbrough.



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