


Dear Parents and Guardians,

# Welcome to Year 2!

Hopefully the information below will give you a brief overview of the term ahead so that you and your child are both feeling prepared for the new term. However, if you have any questions or concerns, or would like ideas of how best to support your child at home, please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office and I will get in touch as soon as possible

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I am thrilled to share with you an overview of the core learning areas for this half term. Below are the highlights from our various subjects as well as information about staffing, PE days and homework expectations in Year 2.

**Show and Tell** will be on Fridays going forward. 11/9 = Foxes, 18/9 = Squirrels, 25/9 = Badgers, 2/10 = Hedgehogs, and then it will rotate back to Foxes on the 9/10 and so on. Obviously, if your child has something they're desperate to share in between – we would still love to hear it!

We love to celebrate success in Year 2, so you may hear about our many reward systems in place. We have *house points, table points, marbles in a jar, Lucky Ducky, Kindness Koala, stickers and much much more* so be sure to ask your child about these!

Kind regards,

Mrs Dominguez



Mrs Dominguez

Class Teacher



Madame Leze

Teaching Assistant



Mrs Popey

Teaching Assistant




## Autumn Curriculum Coverage

Below is an overview of some of the core learning that we will be focusing on this half term as part of our lessons.

For extra information see the attached Knowledge Organisers and take a look at our class page on the school website. This will be updated regularly with pictures and links to help you with learning at home.

### English

We will start the term with a focus on the well-loved book 'The Gruffalo'. We will be looking at the repetitive language in the story and other similar stories, whilst focusing on grammatical concepts such as expanded noun phrases, tenses, different sentence types and apostrophes.

### Phonics

We will continue to have daily phonics sessions using the Little Wandle programme.

### Handwriting

We will continue to practise our handwriting 3 times a week, following the Nelson's hand writing programme. As per the Year 2 curriculum, we are now practising cursive handwriting.

### Maths

We are going to follow the Power Maths scheme again this year. We will continue working with numbers to 100 focusing on place value and solving addition and subtraction equations. We will also learn to identify and describe the properties of shapes.

There is lots of emphasis on practising and solidifying number systems and number sense through the use of a range of manipulatives available to the children, including things such as part-whole models, tens frames, counters, number lines, rekenrek and bead strings.

I will also be sending home Active Learn log ins, where the children can access online games linked to what we have been learning in class.

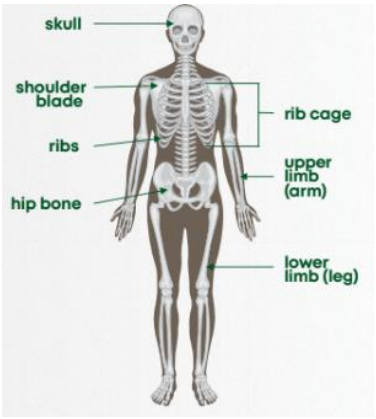
### Science – The Human Body

In this unit children will learn that our skeletons give our body shape, protect vital organs and help us to move. They will look at the shape of different bones in our body and begin to recognise their function. Children will also recognise that muscles have many important roles within our body, helping us to move and holding our skeletons together.

Children will have their first look at our digestive system. They will learn that food gives us energy, so we can move and grow. This connects to their learning in Year 1 about how living things need food to grow. They will begin to understand that the digestive system sorts out the food we eat, taking nutrients and other essential things and leaving waste.

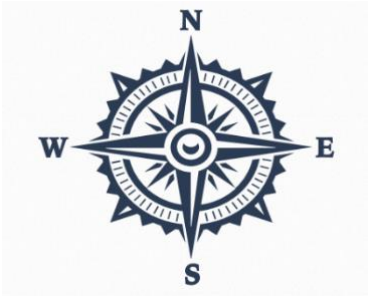
Children will also learn about the circulatory system which is made up of a complex network of blood vessels, arteries and veins. The role of the heart will be explored, and children will understand that blood is pumped around our bodies.

Finally, children will learn that there are very tiny living things called microorganisms that we can only see with a microscope. They will learn that some microorganisms are helpful, but that some, like bacteria, can be harmful to our bodies.




## Geography – Spatial Sense

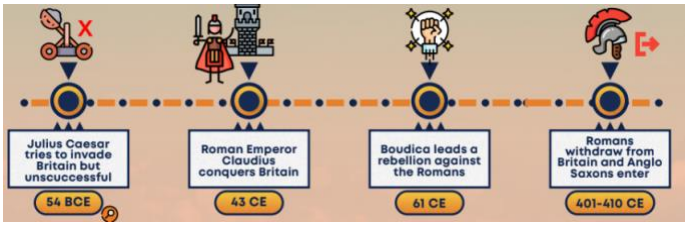
Throughout this unit children will be forming an understanding that maps, made by cartographers, give us information about different locations. They will look at simple map symbols and understand what they represent. Children will encounter new and ambitious vocabulary that features throughout the unit, offering children many opportunities to rehearse and apply it in their talk tasks and written work. Children will also draw maps or sketch areas.




## History – The Romans

This unit introduces children to the Roman invasion of Britain. They will encounter the significant individuals - Julius Caesar and Emperor Claudius. They will also look closely at how the Roman army was organised and evaluate what made them so successful. In addition, the children will learn about the significant rebellion led against the Romans by the Celtic queen of the Iceni, Boudicca.

The children will analyse continuity & change between life in Britain before, during and after the Romans, looking at what continued and stayed the same versus what changed. They will learn that the Romans left their influence on the way we speak, read and write, and how they left behind the roads and towns they had built.






## Art – Colour and Shape

We will revisit colour mixing and brushwork whilst looking at Kandinsky's squares and then study Klee's use of shape and colour in Three Houses, introducing and defining the concept of shape. Children will use natural objects to create organic shapes in card, which they then form into sculptures like Calder's.



## P.E.

P.E. this term will be on **Thursday** afternoons, every other week. We will have P.E in the week that there is no Forest School. Please send your child into school in their P.E. uniform on this day and ensure that children *are not wearing any jewellery*.

This half term we will be focusing on listening to instructions and coordination.

## PSHE

We will continue to follow the Jigsaw curriculum this year. This term we will be focusing on the units 'being me in my world' and 'celebrating differences'. Please see the knowledge organisers sent home.

## Computing

We will continue to follow the Purple Mash curriculum this year. These sessions will include Online Safety.

## Forest School

Forest school will be fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons. Please send your child into school wearing old clothes, which cover legs and arms due to nettles. They will also need appropriate footwear (wellies can be sent to change into but not worn all day), a warm coat and suitable clothes for the weather (hat, gloves, scarf, and waterproofs if needed). Forest school goes ahead in all weathers (apart from high winds) and lasts all afternoon so the children need clothing that will keep them as warm and dry as possible. **The first session will be 8th September**.

## Homework

All homework will be **set on a Friday** and will be **due in the following Wednesday**.

Your child will be sent home with a **reading** book which has been based on their recent reading assessment. **Please ensure your child brings their reading book and record to school every day.**

Reading is your child's main homework. It is essential that they read most evenings at home to ensure they become both fluent (read quickly) and knowledgeable of a range of vocabulary (understanding the meaning of words they come across).

**Book changing day is a Thursday**. If your child has read a minimum of 3 times and the diary has been written in, their book will be changed. They will also be added into a prize draw each time they've read 3 times in a




week – *to win 10 House Points and we also announce the top 5 readers each week who win 5 House Points each*.

Each week **Spellings** will be sent home so that you can see which words we have been learning at school and you can practise these at home. We will have a low stakes spelling test each **Friday** in class.

Please see attached sheet with some spellings games and ideas.

A short **Maths** activity will be sent home each week, to consolidate learning that has taken place in class. Online maths games will also be allocated to their Active Learn accounts for children to complete if they wish.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to a term filled with exciting discoveries and growth!