

# Year 2 Ash and Birch Newsletter

## Autumn Term 1



Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, we would like to wish you a very warm welcome back to the new school year. We are absolutely delighted to be teaching Year 2 this year and are looking forward to the exciting learning we have coming up. Tina will be the Teaching Assistant in Ash class and Zin will be the Teaching Assistant in Birch class. Isabelle will support the learning across both classes. Ms Naidoo and Ms Sheppard have their planning time on a Friday afternoon, when the class will be taught PE by Anna and Computing by Isabelle. Ms Sheppard has her leadership time on a Monday, when Ash class will be taught by Ms Rothon, and then Ms Bell.

The following is an overview of what your child will be taught in the first half of the Autumn term, as well as general timetabling information.

In **English**, we will begin by reading *The Day the Crayons Quit*. We will focus on going over punctuation taught in year 1 and using different types of sentences to be able to write a persuasive letter. Our second text of this half term will be *Traction Man*. We will use this as a stimulus to write character descriptions and our own narrative story. As always, we will be placing a great emphasis on **reading**. Please read with your child every day for at least 15 minutes and discuss what has happened in the text to ensure that your child can develop their comprehension skills and vocabulary. All children will be able to take a library book home on a Friday, as our librarian has specific measures in place to ensure this is safe. Currently we will not be sending out the levelled home reader books, though this may change as guidance does. We will resend out Bug Club passwords and make sure your child has books at the right level on Bug Club instead.

Our first **Maths** focus this half-term will be place value, followed by addition and subtraction. We will also be practising our problem solving and reasoning skills to make sure that the children can apply the mathematical skills we are learning to solve real-life problems.

Our **History** topic will focus on significant people from the past, specifically Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. We will learn about the conditions in Crimea, the impact that Florence Nightingale had in hospitals and why Mary Seacole is an important figure. Alongside this newsletter, you have received a knowledge organiser. This contains an overview of key knowledge for your child's history topic this half term. Please encourage

your child to become familiar with the knowledge contained in the organiser at home, as this will allow for more focus on historical skills, rather than knowledge, within lessons.

In **Science**, our topic will be Animals Including Humans. We will be looking at the life cycle of a chicken, human babies, essential human needs, how to have a healthy heart and how to make healthy food choices.

In **Music**, children will continue with their drumming lessons. In addition, they will have in-class music taught through Music Express. Our music topics are titled, 'Ourselves' and 'Animals'. We will explore body percussion and pitch.

Our 'big question' in **Religious Education** this term is: *Why is it good to listen to and remember the stories Jesus told?* In this unit, we will explore some of the parables that Jesus told and what we can learn from them.

Please note **PE** will be on **Fridays**. Please ensure your child has the correct kit and comes to school dressed in their kit on Fridays. We will be focusing on sending and receiving games and then attacking, defending and shooting through inventing and creating games. We will let you know as soon as we have information about the swimming pool reopening.

**Core homework** will be distributed at the start of each half-term. It will include all of your child's spellings and their project homework. Please practise spellings at home regularly and encourage your child to participate in our topic-related project. Spellings will be tested on a Monday. If you would like to receive the additional optional homework please return the slip to your child's class teacher. Homework will be uploaded onto Teams. You can either complete the work and hand it in through Teams or write it into your homework book. Homework must be handed in to us on Monday, and then the optional homework will be uploaded each Wednesday.

As always, thank you for all your support. We are looking forward to a great and successful year together. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask us.

Kind regards,

Ms. Naidoo, Ms. Sheppard, Isabelle, Tina and Zin

The Year 2 Teaching Team

