

## Meet the Teacher Year 2

Welcome to Year 2!

### **Topics**

Year 2 is still topic based and this year we will be covering a variety of topics. Our topics this year include: Let's Remember, The Great Fire of London, Australian Adventure, Traditional Tales, Mega structures.

We teach in a cross curricular way and link our English, Art, Humanities and Maths where possible to the topic.

### **Reading**

Reading books will be changed on a Monday and Friday. It is really important that you read with your child every day and try to question them about the book in order to check their understanding of what they have read. If you could make any additional notes about their reading in their reading records, this would be extremely helpful. For example, not just writing that they have read, but if they struggled to read any particular words, if they enjoyed the book or if they could answer questions about what they have read. We will be continuing the Kingsway Reading Challenge where children are rewarded for reading at home, this will be up and running soon.

### **Phonics and SPaG**

Phonics will be taught daily. We will begin by revisiting some sounds to assess how much the children have retained and gain an understanding of any gaps in your child's phonics knowledge. As your child was not able to complete their phonics screening check in Summer Term of Year 1, they will complete this during the Autumn Term (before Christmas).

A focus of the new curriculum is the inclusion of Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar. This includes such things as word types, like nouns, adjectives and adverbs; different types of punctuation such as exclamation and question marks and the spelling of common words. The teaching of SPaG will be included as part of all lessons. Within phonics lessons, children will practise spelling common exception words and words which include the focus phonics sounds.

As part of homework, spellings will be sent home, on a Friday for children to learn and practise. They will be tested the following Friday.

### **Handwriting**

During the course of the year, we will develop the children's cursive (joined up) writing. We will be teaching cursive writing as part of our handwriting sessions and will encourage children, when they are ready, to use this cursive writing on a daily basis in their books.

### **PE**

Year 2 PE will take place on a Tuesday (Yellow) and Thursday (Green). Children should come to school in their PE kit on those days ensuring they are wearing plimsolls or trainers. If possible, please cover or remove your child's earrings on these days.

### **Computing**

Children will have computing lessons which will cover the computing curriculum such as; coding using the scratch program, researching information and creating art work.

### **Homework**

Due to the current climate, we will not be sending home homework books. Instead we will be setting homework on a Friday via Marvellous Me. The focus of homework will be reading, vocabulary, spelling and talking work. We are asking that homework is not sent into school at the moment. However, we would love to see what the children are doing at home so please send pictures or copies of work to [admin@kingsway.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kingsway.herts.sch.uk).

### **Show and Tell**

Show and tell is continuing in Year 2. We have a list for this half term which you will have seen in your child's book bag. We will ask for your child to bring in their Show and Tell on a Monday and they will have an opportunity to show this during that week. Where possible please try not to bring in toys but something else, maybe a souvenir from a trip or something linking to our topic that your child is happy to talk about.

## **Additional Responsibilities**

Children in Year 2 have additional responsibilities in school. This includes being a buddy at play time. Year 2 children take it in turns to get out play equipment before play and lunchtime and tidy it away at the end. They also keep an eye out for other children in the playground to check that everybody has somebody to play with.

## **End of KS1 Assessment**

At the end of KS1, children are expected to take part in statutory assessments. These support our final teacher assessments. However, we do not put pressure on the children in the build-up to these and ensure that children are unfazed by these activities.

Please feel free to speak to us if you have any questions. If you would like to speak to the class teacher on a one to one basis please call the office, who will be able to arrange a phone call for you or catch us at the end of the day when all children have gone home. Please could we politely ask you that comments are not made on social media and that you speak with us directly if there are any queries or issues.

We look forward to working with you this year,

Mrs Knights and Miss Smith