



Class 2's Newsletter - Autumn 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back! I hope that you have all had a lovely Summer break. We did not get as much sun as we would all have liked but it's been lovely to hear the children speak about what they have enjoyed doing. It has been a pleasure to start meeting some of you on the playground. Always feel free to speak to any member of the Year 2 team when you see us. We are here to help and will always try our best to resolve any issues or concerns that you may have. Please keep an eye out on our Year 2 doors as I will use the windows for any notices or pictures from activities in school that could be of interest. The learning journey has begun and all the staff in Year 2 are looking forward to a fantastic year with the class. Hopefully, in the coming days, weeks and months your children will have lots to tell you about what they have been learning in school!

Topic

This term our topic is 'Street Detectives!' I am particularly excited about this because we will be exploring the local area of Armitage and taking the children on a local walk. Not being from Armitage myself, it will be fantastic to explore what is close to the school and share this with the children. This topic will also allow us to take the children back in time to see what Armitage and Staffordshire itself used to be like. The class will also find out what school used to be like and begin to understand how their way of life at school is different to children that attending school in the past. As well as this, we will be taking a closer look at maps of the local area. The children will develop a better understanding of how to understand what they see on a map and they will also have the opportunity to draw a simple map of their own, using the knowledge and skills that they have learned. We will explore the differences between a village, town and city before delving a little deeper into Armitage itself and finding out what makes it special and different to other places the children may know. It should be a thoroughly enjoyable topic and I hope the children really enjoy it.

Literacy

We will use a variety of texts this term and we will be starting with the fantastically titled 'The Marvellous Fluffy Squishy Itty Bitty' by Beatrice Alamanga. The children will develop their understanding of 'sentence stacking'; a process that allows them to build their writing a little at a time. There will be a strong focus on encouraging the children to use adventurous vocabulary alongside helping them to be more consistent with implementing key punctuation such as capital letters, full stops and commas. Presentation skills will also be modelled and encouraged to help the children with taking pride in their work. We will continue with the Anima Phonics scheme which the children are very familiar with from their time in Year 2. This will support them with their reading skills and provide spellings for them to learn in school each week.

Numeracy

In our Numeracy lessons this term we will be supporting the class with their place value skills. There will be the opportunity for them to use a variety of resources to support them with their learning which will include the ordering; partitioning, building and recognising of numbers in a variety of ways up to 100 and recognising patterns in number sentences. After this, we will progress to addition and subtraction. This will enable the children to build on their place value skills by learning number facts as well as a variety of methods that will enhance their ability to add and subtracts numbers more confidently. We will then reintroduce the children to and build on strategies they were taught in Year 1 relating to multiplication and division including making equal groups, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and creating arrays.

Science

This term the children will be learning about materials. They will learn the names of different materials and that different materials have different uses. We will explore what clothes are made of and share opinions as to why. The children will also find out that some materials are natural but that some need to be specially made. We will conduct some investigations that will help the children to identify the properties of different materials and I'm sure they will find this a lot of fun!

PE

Children will continue to come to school in their P.E kit. Our PE sessions are on a Monday and Thursday afternoon. In sunny weather, shorts and t-shirt will be appropriate but please ensure that the children have a named school jumper with them in case it does become cooler. If they are wearing shorts and a t-shirt please make sure that the shorts are navy or black and that the t-shirt is white.

Homework and Reading

Each Friday the children will be given a piece of Numeracy or Literacy homework which is due in on a Tuesday. Please support your child and encourage them to complete their homework, as it is good preparation for Key Stage 2. If for any reason you and your child can not complete the homework then do not hesitate to email me. Your child will read with an adult on the same day as they did in Year 1 but please help them to bring their reading books in every day so that if they are asked to read with an adult on an additional day too, they have it ready in their bag. It would also be really helpful if you could try and read with your child several times a week as. They will receive a house point each time they read at home so please make sure you write in their Reading Record too. When you do this, identifying anything they did well, or struggled with, would be really appreciated as well. Do not hesitate to read a book more than once as this can support your child's understanding of what they are reading. Please support them with understanding any new vocabulary as well as asking them questions about what they have read.

Reminder

I ask that each day your child continues to bring a fresh bottle of water to keep in the class to drink throughout the day. The children can bring a snack into school for morning break or they can have toast which can be paid for via our ParentPay system.

If you have any questions or queries which the newsletter does not answer, then please do not hesitate to email me at staff38@croft.staffs.sch.uk. I look forward to meeting more of you as the term progresses.

Mr Ashley