

# Year 2 Newsletter

## Autumn 2

**Our topic/theme this half term is:**

# The Stories People Tell!

**In this topic, we will be using different stories and authors to inspire our writing, learning about animals and the UK, and reproducing art work based on famous artists from the past!**

**Our Key Texts this half term are 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers and 'The Secret of the Black Rock'.**

## Our English learning this half term:

### Reading:

**In Guided Reading this half term, we will be focusing on the following objectives:**

- Participate in discussion about books, poems and other works that are read to him/her and those that he/she can read for himself/herself, taking turns and listening to what others say
- Read words in age-appropriate books accurately and fluently without overt sounding and blending, and sufficiently fluently to allow him/her to focus on understanding rather than decoding
- Answering and asking questions.
- Discuss and clarify the meanings of words, linking new meanings to known vocabulary.
- Make inferences on the basis of what is being said and done

### Writing:

**In Year 2, we will be developing the following writing skills:**

- Write narratives about personal experiences and those of others (real and fictional).
- Consider what he/she is going to write before beginning by encapsulating what he/she wants to say, sentence by sentence.
- Make simple additions, revisions and corrections to his/her own writing by proof-reading to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation

**We will be writing non-chronological reports based on 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers.**

**We will focus on developing the following specific skills:**

- Use questions in our writing.
- Use titles and subheadings.
- Use key vocabulary, diagrams and captions.

**We will be writing suspense stories based on 'The Secret of The Black Rock', including the following skills:**

- Use conjunctions and connectives.
- Using adjectives and verbs to build tension.
- Use exclamations and show character reactions.

**In grammar, we will be covering the following areas:** Use expanded noun phrases for description and specification; Understand how the grammatical patterns in a sentence indicate its function as a statement, question, exclamation or command; use capital letters and full stops; Use commas to separate items in a list.

## Our Maths learning this half term:

### Continue Addition and Subtraction

- Solve one-step problems with addition and subtraction: using concrete objects and pictorial representations, including those involving numbers, quantities and measures applying their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods.
- Recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and derive and use related facts up to 100.
- Add numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: a two-digit number and ones; a two-digit number and tens; two two-digit numbers; adding three one-digit numbers.
- Subtract numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: a two-digit number and ones; a two-digit number and tens; two two-digit numbers.
- Show that addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot.
- Recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and solve missing number problems.

### Shape

- Identify and describe the properties of 2-D shapes, including the number of sides and symmetry in a vertical line.
- Identify and describe the properties of 3-D shapes, including the number of edges, vertices and faces.
- Recognise 2-D shapes on the surface of 3-D shapes, for example a circle on a cylinder and a triangle on a pyramid.
- Compare and sort common 2-D and 3-D shapes and everyday objects.

## Our Science and Computing learning this half term:

### Science

**Our unit of science this half term is focused on animals and humans, looking at food and offspring. We will be covering the following knowledge areas:**

- I can describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food.
- I can notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults
- I can find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air)
- I can describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.

**We will be developing the following enquiry skills:**

- Use simple features to compare, group and sort
- Notice patterns and relationships, with support
- Raise own simple questions and how to answer them in different ways.
- Communicate findings in a range of ways and begin to use simple scientific language, with support.

### Computing

**Our unit of computing this half term is focused on creating media through digital photography.**

- I can take photos with a camera.
- I can adjust the zoom and focus to improve my photo.
- I can edit my work on a computer
- I can create something useful on a computer.

**We will also consider the difference between public and private and how we can leave a digital footprint when we are online.**

## Our Humanities learning this half term:

### Geography:

**Our focus this half term will be on naming, locating and identifying characteristics of the 4 countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas.**

#### **We will be exploring the following areas:**

- Recall the continents and oceans of the world.
- Understand that the UK is a union of four countries and identify these countries, their capitals and some of their characteristics.
- Draw comparisons between parts of the UK.
- Use satellite images, aerial photographs and different maps to identify these parts of the UK.
- Identify human and physical features within the United Kingdom and broaden the range of geographical language we can use.

### RE:

In RE this half term, we will be exploring the Christian story of Christmas and look at why this story is important to people. We will explore some of the following questions:

- How and why do we celebrate birthdays?
- How do Christians celebrate the story of Jesus's birthday?
- What is the Christmas story?
- What is the moral of the Christmas story?
- How do we personally celebrate Christmas?

We will use role play and discussion to explore the different elements of the Christmas story.

## Our Creative Arts learning this half term:

### Art:

Children will be exploring their use of watercolour, trying different patterns and tones to create a night-time and daytime scene in the style of Van Gogh.

#### **We will develop the following skills:**

- Continue to experiment to lighten and darken without the use of black or white. Begin to mix colour shades and tones.
- Use a sketchbook to plan and develop simple ideas and continue to store information on colour mixing, the colour wheel and colour spectrums.
- Continue to investigate tone by drawing light/dark lines, patterns and shapes, using a pencil.
- Name, match and draw lines/marks from observations.

### DT:

Linked to the book 'Here We Are', we will be making 'Perfect World' models, using papier mache and decorating using paint.

#### **We will develop the following skills:**

- Design purposeful, functional, appealing products for themselves and other users based on design criteria.
- Generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through talking, drawing and templates.
- Select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks (e.g. cutting, shaping, joining and finishing).
- Select from and use a wide range of materials and components according to their characteristics.

### Music: Singing

- Singing seasonal songs whilst practising vocal and conductor techniques including dynamics, tempo, crescendo, decrescendo.
- Musician skills, including pitch games. Introduce scales on a digital device melody. Try to discover the correct notes to popular melodies.

## Our PE and PSHE learning this half term:

### PE:

#### **Our PE units this half term are Fundamentals and Gymnastics**

##### **Fundamentals**

Refine the skills of running successfully, changing directions on the move. Develop throwing, catching, striking and dribbling skills and play small games.

##### **Gymnastics**

Develop positions of stillness referring to shapes on varying numbers of contact points and body parts. Transfer weight from one position of stillness to another. Short movement phrases – linking positions of stillness, jumps and introduce travel movements.

### PSHE:

#### **Our unit this half term is 'My Emotions':**

- Recognise feelings in others.
- Develop some strategies to deal with their own strong emotions, including calming and relaxing themselves.
- Know that there is a link between thoughts, feelings and behaviour.
- Understand that how they feel can affect how they approach and tackle tasks, including learning, and have some strategies for regaining a positive frame of mind.
- Develop some understanding of the difference between behaviour which is impulsive and that which is thought through.
- With support, use a simple problem-solving process and have some strategies to calm themselves down to be ready to solve a problem.
- Know what it feels and looks like to be assertive.

**We will also explore anti-bullying, discussing what bullying is and how we can make sure it does not happen in our school.**

## Key Vocabulary

### Key Vocabulary for this half term:

#### Maths

ones, tens, regroup, add, more, less, one hundred more, one hundred less, facts, tens boundary, subtract, partition, line, shape, polygon, circle, angle, hexagon, octagon, quadrilateral, pentagon, cuboid, sphere, square, rectangle, triangle, curve, corner, line of symmetry, triangular.

#### English

noun, noun phrase, expanded noun phrase, past and present tense, subheadings, labels, captions, facts, opinions, bullet points, title, paragraphs, statement, exclamation, question, command, commas, adjective, verb.

#### Science

offspring, carbohydrates, protein, fibre, fats, basic needs, exercise, healthy, fitness, survival, water, air, reproduce, adult, baby, kitten, calf, food chain, prey, predator, camouflage, protection, balanced diet, hygiene.

#### Geography

continent, ocean, United Kingdom, England, Scotland, Wales, London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, English Channel, North Sea, Irish Sea, Atlantic Ocean, borders, country, equality, diversity, community, respect, physical and human features.