

YEAR 2 – AUTUMN TERM 2023

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child/children to Year 2. We hope you have spent some quality time with your families and are now ready for an exciting new term of learning. Our team this year consists of **Mrs Allen (Bramblewood), Miss Stewart (Swiftwood) and Mrs Smith (Bosworth).** Mrs Burton, Miss Cox and Mrs Pallett will also be joining the Year 2 team and supporting the children. We are looking forward to working in partnership with you to ensure that your child has a happy and successful year. If you have any queries or questions, please don't hesitate to contact the office to arrange a telephone appointment.

Get, Set, Go!

As a Year 2 team, our first priority is to make sure that every child feels happy, safe and secure coming into their new class. To enable us to do this, we have planned an exciting topic that will provide plenty of opportunities for the children to talk about their feelings, interests and experiences and recap their learning from Year 1. This exciting topic will also give children the opportunity to form new friendships in their class. The book "**Juniper Jupiter**" by **Lizzy Stewart** about a super powered child is used as a basis for this topic to engage children's imaginations, enthusiasm and interest.

ENGLISH

We will be using a range of media to develop children's speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. This will include:

- The Secret Life of Pets – developing inference skills, writing descriptive sentences and writing a creative story.
- Where the Poppies Now Grow – information text about significant individuals, setting descriptions and poems linked to Remembrance Day.
- Traditional and Twisted Tales – characteristics of good and bad characters, character and setting descriptions and creating their own alternative tale based on stories they are familiar with.

We will expect the correct use of punctuation and encourage the children to use a range of sentence styles. The children will be taught to use varied and exciting vocabulary, including the use of expanded noun phrases.

READING

During whole class and individual reading, pupils will be expected to read fluently using expression. By discussing characters, settings, events and non-fiction information the children will develop greater comprehension skills including prediction, retrieving information and inference.

Children will receive **two books a week** to take home and read. Please listen to your child read every day. It is also beneficial to ask questions about the book to develop their comprehension skills. If you finish the books ahead of time, there is still value in re-reading the book again to help your child embed new vocabulary. The books will then be changed the following week on a given reading day.

PE

During PE, the classes will be learning to play Dodgeball during indoor PE lessons and ball games in outdoor PE lessons. They will learn important team work and communication skills.

Children are required to come to school in their P.E kit on **Monday and Tuesday**. For health and safety, no jewellery should be worn on these days. Any earrings that can not be removed need to be covered with tape.

Phonics

In the autumn term children will have the chance to consolidate the alternative Phase 5 graphemes, including split digraphs, and to use these confidently to read and write sentences and paragraphs.

Homework

Homework is an opportunity to consolidate what they have learnt at school. It will be given out each Friday electronically on Microsoft Teams and will need to be completed by the following Thursday.

MATHS

Every day the children will practise and develop oral and mental skills e.g. counting, mental strategies, rapid recall number bonds and times table facts. In groups and independent work, we will be covering the following skills and using them to deepen the children's mathematical understanding:

- Counting, properties of numbers, number sequences and times tables.
- Place value and ordering numbers.
- Using the four operations (+ - x ÷) to solve problems.
- The properties of shape.
- Money.

Some useful websites to practise oral and mental maths skills at home include:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16&AgeGroup=2>

SCIENCE

Animals, including humans

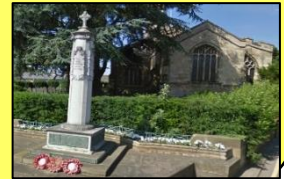
This term, the children will enjoy learning more about lifecycles including those of animals and humans. They will:

- Look at the differences and similarities of each stage in the human life cycle
- Compare how life cycles differ between species.
- Animals and their young.
- Explore the five main food groups and how each one contributes to a healthy body.
- Investigate the importance of exercise and the effects upon the body will also form part of their investigation.

HISTORY/GEOGRAPHY

Pupils will learn about significant events, people and places. This will include:

- Remembrance Day, the Suffragettes and its relevance to Oadby.
- The local area of Oadby and how it has changed over time.
- Identify human and physical features that make up our town.
- Devise simple maps and construct symbols in a key.
- Marking a route on a map.
- A visit around our local area.



R.E.

Throughout the Autumn term, Year 2 will look at the Muslim faith. We will discuss Islamic celebrations, culture and beliefs.



SPANISH

The children will learn about the Spanish greetings, family members and counting to 20.

ART

In this skilled based subject, children will explore the work of different artists and a skill they have used. They will produce artwork based on topics they have learnt about in class. This will include:

- Portrait painting using colour mixing.
- Diwali artwork exploring warm and cool colours with symmetry.
- Remembrance Day artwork inspired by Monet.
- Cartoon-style illustrations of pets.



COMPUTING

In the computer suite, we will be exploring IT around us and learning about digital photography. Children will have the chance to use different computing equipment during these lessons.



MUSIC

Music this term will help children to learn about rhythm, pitch and pulse when singing, playing, improvising and composing music. We will be taking part in singing assemblies as a key stage, enabling us to listen to different genres of music and learn new songs to perform.