

3rd November 2016

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are now well into the Autumn term and the children are all enjoying and responding to the challenges and expectations of being in Year 2. As we head towards the excitement of Christmas, we would like to outline the curriculum we will be studying this half term. Once again, we are delighted that the children want to bring in and share additional work that they have been doing at home . . . it is great to see such enthusiastic learners!

Thank you once again for all your continued support.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Leck

<p>English</p> 	<p>During our English lessons we will use a range of fiction and non-fiction texts to support our topics, and be a stimulus for reading, writing, speaking and listening. Specifically we will be identifying adjectives, verbs and nouns within sentences and also looking at how a range of punctuation is used within texts. We will be retelling familiar stories, and using first hand experiences to develop skills in writing for different purposes. We will also be reading, enjoying and writing poetry, as well as identifying personal preferences.</p> <p>We will continue to support the children to develop a neat, cursive, handwriting style with regular handwriting practice and teaching of specific joins. Our daily phonics sessions will look at a range of spelling patterns to support writing and reading development.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p> 	<p>Our maths lessons, this half term, will start with a focus on measurement and we will be exploring length (using cm/m) and mass (using kg/g). The children will have lots of hands-on experience of using rulers and scales. We will then focus on data handling where the children will learn how to interpret and construct simple pictograms, tally charts, block diagrams and tables. Children will have the opportunity to ask and answer questions about the data.</p> <p>Towards the end of this term we will introduce the children to the multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Throughout this half term, we will be challenging the children to use their skills to solve word problems and calculations, and be able to explain their reasoning.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>In science, this half term, we will continue our ongoing topic exploring seasonal changes. We will be using our school grounds to identify a wide range of common trees by looking carefully at their leaves, bark, berries and seeds. In addition, the children will be learning how to ask questions about the world around them, and how to carry out a simple investigation fairly by controlling the variables.</p>
<p>ICT and Computing</p> 	<p>The children will have the opportunity to use the new laptops in the IT suite once a week where they can practise and develop their skills. We also have class computers and a class set of ipads which are used to support the curriculum. This half term we will continue to use child safe search engines such <a href="http://www.kidrex.org">www.kidrex.org</a> to find information and also how to use Bing/Google Maps to locate places in Kendal.</p>
<p>History</p>  	<p>In our history unit this half term, pupils will continue to learn about the history of Kendal. We will be looking at the meaning behind the Kendal coat of arms, learning about the castle and the wool trade. We hope that by the end of this topic the children will have a greater understanding of the town in which they live.</p> <p>This half term, we will be learning about Remembrance Sunday, and appreciating why people buy and wear poppies at this time of year. We will also be learning about the life of Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot and think about different sources of evidence.</p>
<p>Art and Design Technology</p> 	<p>Our artwork, this half term, will be linked to our topics and the children will have the opportunity to use a range of materials such as paint, clay and textiles to create a range of pictures and models. We also have Christmas 'making morning' to look forward to!</p>

<p>Music</p> 	<p>In our weekly singing sessions in Key Stage One the children will be learning and performing the songs which form part of our Christmas Nativity Production which will take place in December. As you will have seen from the last newsletter all performances are in the morning this year as the nursery children taking part only attend school in the mornings.</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>The children have one indoor and one outdoor P.E. session each week. The indoor session will focus on dance and developing a sequence of moves to music. The outdoor session will focus on passing and receiving an object, such as a ball, using hands, feet, bats and hockey sticks.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>This half term we will thinking about "Celebrations". We will learn about the Hindu and Sikh celebration of Divali and the children will think about special celebrations in their own lives. We will then look at the celebrations linked to Christmas, and the meanings behind the celebrations for Christians.</p>
<p>Global Awareness</p> 	<p>Our Global Awareness curriculum will focus on helping others who are less fortunate than ourselves. We will be talking to the children about the shoebox appeal, and how the lives of children from poorer countries can be enhanced by our gifts.</p>
<p>Citizenship</p> 	<p>Our citizenship sessions will focus on our new school values. This half term we will be thinking about being "Resourceful". We will be encouraging the children to think of solutions themselves and not giving up at the first hurdle.</p>
<p>Homework Ideas</p> 	<p>Here are some ideas to support your child at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading (school books or home books)</li> <li>• Writing (stories, diaries, recounts, book reviews)</li> <li>• Cooking (reading instructions, weighing and measuring)</li> <li>• Going for a walk and looking for signs of Autumn.</li> <li>• Using <a href="http://www.kidrex.org">www.kidrex.org</a> to search for information.</li> </ul>