

# **Autumn 1**

## **Curriculum Letter**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful summer holidays! We have been delighted with the children's calm and settled start to the year and to see all the children so enthusiastic, confident and happy to meet old friends in their Year 2 classes. They have coped so well with all of the new routines we have put in place to keep them safe. We have a very committed and enthusiastic Year 2 team who will work together to achieve the best for your child. We would like to introduce you to the Year 2 team:

**Badger Class:** Class Teacher: Miss Innes      Teaching Assistant Miss Mantle

**Fox Class:** Class Teacher: Mrs Smith      Teaching Assistant: Mrs Dunford  
Student teacher: Miss Ingram

**Woodpecker Class:** Class Teacher: Mrs Hillier and Mrs Watts  
Teaching Assistant: Mrs Liddiard

**From Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October, there will be a narrated curriculum PowerPoint available on the website to watch. It will give you an insight into the things that the children will be doing this year in Year 2. We will discuss the Year 2 curriculum in more detail and offer ideas as to how you can support your child at home with their learning.**

### **First three weeks**

During the first three weeks we have been focussing on settling the children back into the new school routine, getting them reacquainted with their old friends and focussing on their personal and social skills. Each child has been given their own basket of stationery and have enjoyed personalising their belongings. Each day we have set aside time for the children to explore and communicate their feelings and any worries they may have. They have researched facts about their class animal and created pictures for their class display boards. We have valued our story times, circle time games and sharing news about each other.

### **Reading books**

You will now have received your login for our online library of books. Please read daily with your child. Remember to read the same book a few times throughout the week to build confidence and fluency. There are fun quizzes to complete at the end of each book and your child can be awarded with different stars. (If you don't get a star the first time, you can complete the quiz again to get the star). Your child's class teacher will look out for regular reading at home and MME for great effort/participation.



### **English**

This half term's topic is **Let it Grow**, which is taught through an integrated curriculum.



In English, the children will be writing stories based on Jack and The Beanstalk and instructions to grow a plant. To support your child at home, try to read them lots of traditional tales as bedtime stories. Remember to ask them lots of questions e.g. Who is your favourite character and why? How do you think this character is feeling and what tells you this? Can you predict what will happen next?

### Phonics

In phonics, the children will be looking at alternative spellings and recapping phase 5. We will be exploring these through investigations, reading and applying this to our writing. We will practise blending real words and monster words containing these sounds, e.g. train is a real word but fra~~in~~ is a monster word. This will help to prepare them for the phonics test the children will all complete in the summer term.



### Mathematics

In Mathematics, the children will be learning about the properties of 2D shapes and learning about lines of symmetry. They will also be consolidating their knowledge of place value by partitioning two digit numbers in different ways. They will apply this to solve a variety of number related problems. They will be developing their mental strategies to add and subtract 1 and 10 from any number to 100. You may wish to support your child with this skill at home to help develop their speed.



### Wider curriculum

In science, the children will be looking at plants and learning about what they need to grow. We will be carrying out experiments with plants to discover what are the best conditions for them to grow. In computing the children will be building on their learning of algorithms and making sequences. They will be inputting this information on programmable toys and evaluating and editing their algorithms. In PE this half term, the children will be taking part in daily physical activities, such as yoga, the golden mile and aerobics. In art, the children will be focusing on observational drawings and drawing techniques.



### Home learning

Please continue to read with your child as much as possible using Rising Stars online library.

The children will continue to learn more words which cannot be phonetically decoded. We will upload the 'common exception' lists on the school's website. Please practise spelling these during the course of the half term. If your child can already spell these words, please encourage your child to write the word in a range of sentences.

Many thanks for your continuing support,

The Year 2 Team

Badger class: Miss Innes (Year Leader)

Woodpecker class: Mrs Hillier and Mrs Watts

Fox class: Mrs Smith