

# Welcome to Year 2



Newsletter

Autumn Term

We hope you have all had a wonderful break, all be it just a week this year. The children have returned to school refreshed and hopefully raring to go as we head towards Christmas! This is going to be a jam packed 7 weeks with the KS1 performance, (11<sup>th</sup> December) our Christmas pantomime, Christmas parties and so much more! In the middle of all of that, the children will be learning lots of new things and exploring new challenges.

## Topic – 'To the Finish Line'

Our topic this half term centres on health, hygiene and wellbeing. We will be exploring the basic needs of humans – air, water, food etc and linking this to health and fitness. We will be studying athletes and sports personalities from around the globe, exploring their daily routines, the types of foods they eat, where this comes from, how much exercise they take each day and the impact of this on their body. We will be completing the mile in the playground each week, hoping to beat our time and improve our fitness levels!

This topic links across the curriculum where we will be making healthy meals in D.T as well as sculpturing Olympian athletes from mod-roc and clay. In art we will be sketching athletes and different sporting events, creating mosaics of fruit and vegetables as well as exploring the work of Cezanne and his drawings of still life. As part of our history studies, we will be learning about Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and the changes in hospitals over the years. This again links with health and well-being.

## Maths

In maths, we will continue to practise and learn by heart our 2s, 5s and 10s timestables, as well as practising counting in 3s. We will be learning the number bonds to 10, 20 and 100 and applying this during our mental arithmetic and quick maths work. We will also be exploring the addition and subtraction of 2 digit numbers, before moving on to learn about money and multiplication and division.

## English

Reading continues to be a huge priority in year 2. As you know we are just embarking on the **Reading Olympiad** across the whole school. We have bought in to the Inspire Library Service to enable children to bring home books from the recommended reading list, as well as their own reading level book. **Every** book read is worth at least 1 point. Certificates are awarded during whole school assembly when children achieve their bronze, silver, gold and platinum. Please support your child with this and enable them to read as many books as they can. We will have a book of the week which we will read alongside our class novel – Mr Majeka. We continue to read **daily** as part of a shared reading session, as well as individually with the adults in school.

The children will be given a range of writing opportunities over the half term focussing on our topic 'To the Finish Line'. They will explore film narratives/linked sporting events, both fictional and factual, as well as studying and creating their own fact files about athletes/sport personalities such as Mo Farrah, Rebecca Adlington, Jessica Ennis, Usain Bolt, Lionel Messi, Michael Phelps and many more.

Hopefully your child/children will be wanting to exercise more, eat a range of foods and be jumping in the bath to keep themselves clean!

## **P.E**

Our P.E days remain the same, Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon. Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school every day as these days can change. We will be outside during Thursdays PE session so it is advisable that children have warm clothing as we gear up to the cold weather. PLEASE ensure jewellery is removed please as we often have lost earrings if they are taken out at school.

## **Thank you**

Finally, thank you for ensuring your children are at the door at 8.45am ready to come into class and begin their learning. This is when the children do 'key skills' work and it is important that they come into class quickly, independently and get straight on with their work. Those valuable minutes between 8.45am and 9am obviously total to 1 hour and 15 minutes of learning time across the course of a whole week. Thank you for your continued support with this.

If there is anything you would like to discuss please don't hesitate to pop in. After school is better, but we are available first thing in the morning if necessary.

Thank you for your continued support!

The Year 2 team