

# Year 2 Newsletter

Welcome back to the summer term – our final term in Year 2 and in Key Stage 1! This term we have lots to look forward to as we embark on our ‘Create’ project and our new big question – ‘Does art reflect the world around us?’

## **Create Project – Does art reflect the world around us?**

This term we will have a creative focus on ‘the arts’ which includes both art and music.



In art, we will explore sculpture and 3D by using clay to design and represent homes and houses in the world around us. Children will learn to use the ‘scratch and slip’ technique, to join clay by ‘impressing’ and ‘joining’ and to add detail and pattern to their artwork in different ways.

Children will also explore map making through ‘craft and design’. They will investigate maps as a stimulus for drawing before using and making a range of materials to create and communicate their own maps, reflecting the world around us. This links nicely to the work we did in geography as part of our ‘Explore’ project and will give us lot of opportunities to revisit this learning.



In music, children will explore the big question through the following units:

- **Inventing a Musical Story**

*Music is used for many reasons and can help us to tell a story and express our feelings. Music can be loud or soft, fast or slow, smooth and connected, or short and detached. We can also use instruments with different sounds to help communicate a story and different emotions.*

- **Exploring Improvisation.**

*Exploring the structure of songs is interesting and important. There are patterns in songs that you will recognise. Listening, singing, playing and improvising are some of them. Introduction, verse, and chorus are some more. Throughout this unit, children will enjoy learning how to improvise within a range of different types of music.*

More information can be found in this term’s project placemat which can be found on the [Year 2 Class Page](#) on the school website.

## **English**



To support our project, we will begin the term by immersing ourselves in the story ‘The Bear and The Piano’ by David Lichfield. This is a wonderful story about a young bear who stumbles upon a piano (something he has never seen before) in the forest. As time passes, he teaches himself how to play the strange instrument and the bear's piano playing makes him a huge star, but he misses the friends and family he has left behind. Could it be that money and celebrity status are not everything?

## **Handwriting and Spelling**

Of course, we will continue our focus on basic skills, letter formation, spelling and handwriting. Along with this letter, you will find the spelling rules that we will be learning in school this half term. These are not to be learnt for a spelling test as such, but to embed our learning in class. Please encourage your children to practise these words at home. If they need an extra challenge, you could practise writing them in a sentence or pick a word and hunt for other words with the same spelling rule!

You can continue to support your child by practising the KS1 National Curriculum spellings ([available here on the Y2 Class Page](#)).

## **Reading**

Please continue to read with your child regularly and log their reading in their home-school diary. Children should continue to have their reading folders in school daily so that we are able to read with them and change books throughout the week.

## **Maths**

In maths, we will continue to follow the White Rose programme of work. This term we will be focussing on:

- Multiplication, Division and Fractions
- Measurement (length, height, mass, capacity and temperature)

- Time (to the nearest 5 minutes)
- Statistics
- Position and Direction

By the end of Year 2, children should know their 2s, 5s and 10s confidently and be able to count in 3s.

To support at home, please log on to 'Numbots' and 'Times Table Rock Stars' regularly with your child. You can also support us by helping to teach your child to tell the time (to the nearest 5 minutes) on an analogue clock.

### **Other Curriculum Areas**

- Science: Living things and their habitats / Plants
- DT: Mechanisms
- Computing: Coding
- PE: Tennis, Cricket, Athletics and Sports Day!
- RE: What is it like to belong to the Christian religion today?  
Jewish and Christian stories: How and why are some stories important in religions?

### **Talking Points / RSHE**

RSHE lessons will continue to be taught through a range of 'Talking Points' picture books, a list of which you can find on the RSHE page on our school website [Click here to see the Y2 texts.](#)

This term the children will also learn about the importance of celebrating difference and tackling racism through the AREP (Anti-Racism Education) Programme. This builds on our learning that there are 'No Outsiders' here at Abbey Gates. We all belong.

### **PE**

PE lessons will return to **Mondays and Wednesdays** this term and children should come into school in their PE kits on these days. Please ensure that long hair is tied back on these days and that children are not wearing any jewellery (especially earrings).



### **Homework**

We look forward to seeing your children's creations in response to our Aim High homework – 'How can we build connections with others?'

Here is a reminder of the homework expectations for your child each week:

- **Reading** – 10-20 mins, at least 3x per week (research shows that little and often is better!)
- **Spellings** – Practise the spelling lists each week - [available here on the Y2 Class Page.](#)
- **Sticky questions** – to be discussed every Monday in class
- **Numbots/TT Rock Stars** – log on at least once per week. Both of these websites use the same login details.

### **Home Time**

Just a reminder to let us know if you have made any different arrangements for your child to be collected at the end of the day (e.g. a different parent or after-school club). In order to ensure the children's safety, we will not let children leave unless we have been notified by parents beforehand. You can do this by emailing or calling the school office or by letting us know at the start of the school day.

### **CAN YOU HELP?**

Are you able to help with any of the topics above? Do you have any skills/talents linked to the things we are learning? Perhaps you know somebody who has an arts-based career who might be able to come in and inspire us...please let us know! We would love to invite you in.

We look forward to an exciting final term with Year 2. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

YEAR 2 TEAM