



Tuesday 12th September 2023

Year 2 – Purple Class Newsletter – Autumn Term 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Purple Class and to a new school year!

The children have made an excellent start to the term, settling really well into their new classroom and new routines. We are really looking forward to an exciting year ahead! The Year 2 teaching team this year is Hazeera Begum (Monday and Tuesday) and Helen Giffen (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday). Our Teaching Assistant every day is Vicki Litenstone. We are also supported by Natasha Thomas and Peter Peck throughout the week.

We have a busy and exciting term ahead, and we would like to share some key information about our learning and topics coming up!

Curriculum

This term our main topic is **The United Kingdom**. We will be learning about the countries in the UK and their capital cities, focusing on key landmarks and geographical features. We will look in closer detail at London with a history focus on the Gunpowder Plot, The Great Fire of London and Samuel Pepys. If you have any resources or books that can support the children's learning, then please do let us know. Linked to our learning about London, the children will learn about Impressionist art and will produce a cityscape in this style. In Science the children will be learning about Living Things and their Habitats and we are very excited that Mrs Goulden will be running a weekly Y2 Gardening Club that links with this. The children will take it in turn to help out at the school allotment in small groups. This term they'll be harvesting some of the vegetables planted last term, planting bulbs, enjoying seeing what happens as autumn approaches and doing lots of jobs getting everything ready for the colder weather to come.

The **Medium-Term Overview** provides further information about everything we will be doing this term and please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Reading

All reading books will be changed on a Tuesday and the children will have the opportunity to change their library book on a Wednesday afternoon. Ideally we would like the children to be reading daily at home, either with an adult or older sibling. We will also be reading 1:1 with the children as much as possible so please ensure that they have their reading books and reading records in school every day. Before moving them to the next level, we will check that they have

95%-100% fluency on their current level which means they should be able to read the book easily. This builds reading confidence and we provide them more of a challenge in our weekly whole class guided reading sessions. In these sessions we focus on decoding texts as well as looking at a range of stories and extracts for comprehension.

Homework

As well as reading at home, homework will be set once a week on a Tuesday. In line with our homework policy, home learning will focus on reading, spelling and maths skills. From time to time it may also include an activity from another area of the curriculum. Homework will be put on the Year 2 Google Classroom Page but we will also provide the children with a homework book if they prefer to complete it on paper. Homework should take no more than 20-30 minutes so please do not spend longer than this.

PE Kits

Our PE days are **Monday** and **Friday**. However, this may change as we take advantage of the weather and lead sessions outside whenever possible. Therefore, it is important that the children have a full PE kit with them every day and that each item is named. This should include the Camp School PE top or a white t-shirt, black shorts/tracksuit trousers, and a pair of plimsolls/trainers to change into. A pair of socks would be useful too if your child regularly wears tights to school. During the school day the class will complete the daily mile (for year 2, two laps) on the school's running track.

Communication

The best time to catch us for a quick conversation is at the end of the day, but of course we know that sometimes you will need to pass on an urgent message in the morning. Should you have any concerns you wish to discuss in more detail we can schedule a time to talk so that we have the time needed to address these properly. Please do come to us (or send an email via the office) with any concerns or questions. We look forward to getting to know you and your children and to a fabulous year ahead!

Best wishes,

The Year 2 Team