

Year 2 Autumn Newsletter 2017

Welcome to year 2. We hope you had a relaxing Summer break and are energised and excited for the new academic year ahead.

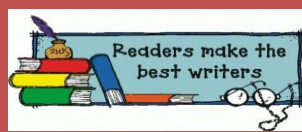
I am very excited to teach Earth class this year and to help your child to learn, be challenged and make great progress. Year 2 is built on strong values that are consolidated throughout Coppermill such as respect, determination and enthusiasm. I want to encourage as much creativity and imagination this year in Earth class as possible and a positive attitude in all areas of learning. We have had a very happy and exciting start to the year and I am sure that this will continue.

As a team we can work really well together to ensure that your child is happy and looks forward to coming to school every single day. I will ensure that there is a strong link of communication between us and I look forward to a really great year ahead!

If you have any comments or concerns please don't hesitate to speak to us after school or you can call the school office to arrange a meeting.

Thanks for your continued support. We look forward to a great term with your children!

Miss Jones, Miss Reed, Ms Pytel and Miss Dobson



Literacy



In Literacy we use a scheme called 'The Power of Reading' which enables us to create wonderful and exciting ideas linked to the story books we are reading. As a class this term we will be looking at the books 'The Jolly Postman,' and 'Traction Man.' Through the imaginative ideas in the story we will create writing such as letters, descriptive posters and narrative pieces. We aim to make Literacy lessons as engaging and creative as possible to create enthusiastic and keen learners.

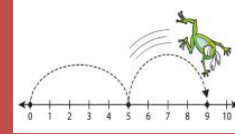
Everyday children will take part in a 40 minute grammar lesson. They will be taught alternative spellings, how to effectively structure sentences and how to punctuate their work correctly. The children will be given a list of spellings each week to practise at home to consolidate their learning. Remember to always use the Look-Say-Cover-Write-Check method when practising with your child. Spelling tests will be every Tuesday.

Children are expected to read every day. Children have the opportunity to change their reading books every day and will also be set books on Bug Club each week. Every child is aware of their book band level and will read and be read to in school on a one to one basis. When reading with your child at home please encourage a level of discussion about the text. Ask them questions about the story or ask them to explain their opinion. If you ever need help/assistance with question ideas please do not hesitate to let me know.

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0> (see bug club sheet for login details)



Mathematics



In maths this year the children will learn a range of new skills including:

- Partitioning into tens and units
- Odd and even numbers
- Counting in 2,5, 10 and 3
- The four operations of add, subtract, multiplication and division
- Fractions
- Exploring money
- Shape
- Time
- Direction and positioning
- Collecting and analysing data
- Solving worded problems

At Coppermill we understand the importance of teaching maths in an engaging way. Children are given the opportunity to explore problems practically, which encourages a lot of discussion-based learning. They are also taught to show their thinking by drawing out the problem and are always encouraged to talk about the idea so that they develop a stronger understanding of complex problems and can explain their thinking process.

Mental maths strategies for the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) will also be taught throughout the year and this is suitable to practise at home.

Homework will be given out every Friday to be returned on the following Tuesday. It will be consolidating the work that they have been learning that week in class. It is very important to allow your child to work out the problems independently before asking for help so you can assess their understanding. Ask your child to explain their maths homework to you to encourage the exploration.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their maths skills:

<http://www.educationcity.com>

<http://www.mymaths>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths/>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks1numeracy.html>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm>

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>

<http://www.topmark.co.uk>



Science

This term in Science, the children will be exploring Materials, and how to keep healthy. Through both units children will explore prediction, observation, classification and evaluation skills in a practical and engaging way.

Below are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their science skills:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/science/>

<http://www.resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/science>

<http://www.kidspot.com.au/kids-activities-and-games/science>



Humanities



This term year 2 will be learning about The Great Fire of London. They will be focusing on historical skills such as: observing and classifying evidence, making comparisons over time, understanding the significance of events and 'cause and effect'. During paired and group work the children will be encouraged to communicate their ideas and practise these skills in a range of different activities.

Below are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their humanities skills:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/geography/>

<http://resources.woodlands.kent.sch.uk/>



Computing

This term in computing the class will be using laptops, computers and iPads to explore different skills. They will be using beebots to learn programming skills.

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.kidsmart.org.uk

www.light-bot.com

www.code.org

www.scratch.mit.edu

www.kodugamelab.com



Art/Design & Technology

All art sessions are linked to curriculum areas. In sessions, children explore different art techniques such as sketching, collage, working with paints and pastels. Children will learn how to appreciate art through their classmates' creations.

The main two skills children will focus on this term will be collaging and sketching. They will also create various pieces of art based around their topic of The Great Fire of London.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their artistic skills:

<http://www.artsconnected.org/toolkit/index.html>

<http://www.disney.co.uk/disney-junior/art-attack/>



R.E.



Children will be exploring Islam and Hinduism this term. In R.E we teach the importance of listening and learning from each other and respecting each other's beliefs and cultures. The children will also explore places of worship and different religious celebrations throughout the year.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to learn more about this topic:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/>

<http://resources.woodlands.kent.sch.uk/>



P.E.

Children will develop basic game-playing skills, in particular throwing, catching and hitting a ball. They will learn the skills of hockey, as well as athletic activities and gymnastics. We believe fitness is extremely important at Coppermill so each day the children will take part in five minute dance activities, as well as jogging around the playground.

Year 2's P.E. day is Tuesday.

Please make sure your child comes into school every Tuesday in their P.E kit.



Home Learning

Your child receives:

- Weekly Maths homework set on Friday to be returned the following Tuesday
- Weekly spellings to be tested each Tuesday in class
- Daily reading at their ability level. You can/your child can record the book in their reading record but this is not compulsory. Children should read aloud to their parents or carers and discuss what they have read, make predictions about a story and explore ideas.