



## Purple Class – Autumn Term Newsletter 2020

Dear Year 2 Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term and the new academic year!

The children have made an excellent start to the term, settled really well to new classroom routines and have already produced some amazing work to show their learning. It has been lovely to see how much they have changed and grown since I last saw them.

We have focussed our lessons so far on the book *Here We Are* by Oliver Jeffers. This is a lovely story about looking after ourselves, others around us and the environment. The children have also written some brilliant poems about the things in the world they see as “wonderful” using Louis Armstrong's *What a Wonderful World* as an example.

Every class in school has been timetabled with a number of sessions each day in the outside areas in school – the allotment, field, wooded area and playgrounds. We will be using these times to ensure the children get plenty of fresh air and exercise between classroom based learning and we will be teaching outside when this is possible too.

We have a busy term ahead, so here is some key information about the learning topics we have to look forward to.

### Curriculum focus

This term our main focus is on London where we will be learning about landmarks in London, making comparisons to other localities and learning all about the Great Fire of London.

If you have any resources or books that can support the children's learning please do let us know.

### Maths

Our maths sessions will focus on supporting the children to re-activate all their prior learning as well as starting the curriculum for their current year. We will spend the first few weeks on place value and number work as this is so important for supporting other learning later in the year. Other key areas for Year 2 in the Autumn term are comparison and measures; counting and mental calculation. Looking at areas such as time and the value of different coins at home with your child would really support their maths learning this term.

### English

This term our fiction and non-fiction writing units will all be based on books. We are using the ‘back on track’ materials developed by County to support the children with their writing across different genres. We know, from the parent survey results, that this is an area many parents have identified as a focus for children now they are back in school.

We are using the book *Frog and the Stranger* by Max Velthuis and will be sequencing the story; focussing on full stops, capital letters and joining sentences with conjunctions and writing our own version of the story.

Your child will also take part in a whole-class reading session each week where we will focus on key elements of the reading curriculum such as inference and retrieval. This will be using a range

of texts and extracts. We will also read 1:1 with your child. Reading books will be changed on a Wednesday and library books will be changed on a Thursday.

As always, we will ensure to support all children's individual needs in a variety of ways. Additional support, individualised learning and intervention will continue in the children's bubbles. We will share any further information if necessary with parents in due course.

## PE

In PE this term we will be completing a gymnastics unit on "Pathways" and a locomotion unit on "Dodging".

The days for PE lessons this term 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, including a long sleeved top and trainers for outdoor PE work. Children with long hair must remember to bring a hair tie. PE kits will be sent home to be washed at the end of the week and then returned the following Monday. Thank you.

## Homework

In line with our homework policy, home learning will focus on reading, spelling and maths skills. We will be setting our first homework task next week and will be using on-line platforms for this. We will remind all parents of any usernames and passwords that they need. Setting our home learning in this way will support in the event of children needing to continue their learning at home.

Unfortunately, for now, there are no class assembly dates. However, we will share with you details and photographs of the children's learning in the whole school newsletters on a regular basis.

I hope that this information is helpful to you, but please do contact us via email or phone if there is anything at all you want to discuss.

Kind regards,

Sarah Rowlatt and the Year 2 team