

Welcome back, we hope that you have had a great half term break. All our children did really well last half term settling into the Year 2 routines. The children have been showing all of the school values and moving around the school in a silent and sensible manner. We are really proud them and look forward to another successful half term. We are also starting to get excited for all our Christmas events that will be preparing for soon.

In English this half-term we will be reading an adapted version of 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens. We will be reading for meaning and tracking the key points of the plot. We will look in detail at the character of Scrooge and will be writing letter from his perspective. Our sentence level work will focus on compound and complex sentences as well as identifying the use of speech in the narrative.

In addition to this, we will be writing a non-chronological report about the human body using our science knowledge from last half-term. We will also be learning two poems; 'How the lion ate Albert' by Marriott Edgar and 'The King's breakfast' by AA Milne.



#### History: The Romans in Britain

We are going to be studying the Romans! This includes looking at aspects of the Romans in the context of Britain, for example, how we lived in Britain before the Romans invaded as well as the architecture and technology they brought with them. We will discuss what impact this had on the people of Britain and whether the Roman invasion was beneficial to Britain. We are also going to be having a whole day of Roman-style activities so keep your eye out for 'Roman Day' communications.

## Science: Living Things and Their Environments

In science we are going to be looking at living things and their environments. We are first going to be looking at what is living, what is dead and what has never been alive. Following on from this, we will take an in-depth look at habitats and the features of different habitats – such as rainforests, deserts, meadows and underground. We will be discussing many different animals during our science lessons and talking about their different food chains.

### Art: Colour, Shape and Texture

In art this half term we are looking at the artist Matisse, particularly his artwork called Cut-out Mimosa and Panel with Mask. The children will be creating their own organic shape (a shape we do not recognise), cutting them out and creating their own art work based on this. They will have to think carefully about the colours they choose, making sure they have primary and secondary colours and the composition (how they lay out their work).

In **R.E** our big question will be 'Why does Christmas matter to Christians?'. Through exploring this we will be looking at the Incarnation of God as baby Jesus and the importance of Christmas for Christians.

In **PSHCE** we will be studying 'My Emotions', looking at our feelings and how our actions affect the feelings of others as well as ourselves – looking at mental wellbeing overall.

In our indoor **PE** sessions we will be participating in gymnastics based activities. Our outdoor **PE** lessons will be taught by Mr Rogers and will focus on ball skills. PE days are Tuesday and Thursday.

In Maths this half term we will be focused on addition and subtraction. This will include finding bonds to 100, adding and subtracting across ten and solving missing number problems. Later on in the term, we will be studying shape. We will recognise the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and find lines of symmetry. We will use symmetry to help us complete shapes. We will end the half term creating some Christmas themed patterns with 2D shapes. We will be continuing to work on counting in 2s, 5s and 10s up to 100.

#### Year 2 Key Information

School planners should be in school every day. They are a key part of our communication with you so please check them regularly. All children also need to have their reading book in school every day. Children are expected to read at home a minimum of 5 times a week. This should be recorded in their planners and will be checked by school staff weekly. Five reads results in a raffle ticket for a chance to win our half termly prize.

Children should now come to school on PE days wearing PE kit. Our outdoor PE lessons are on **Tuesday** and indoor PE lessons are on **Friday**.

Our library slot is on a Tuesday. Please make sure library books are back in school for this so they can be changed and choose another book.

#### Home Learning

Our home learning this half term will include daily reading and an activity from our 'Pic and Mix' sheet (stuck into home learning books). We will also set a home learning project linked to Science. If you would like the 'Pic and Mix' to be looked at weekly please make sure home learning books are in school on a **Wednesday** and will be returned to you on a **Friday**.

# Dates for your diary:

Friendship Week – 14<sup>th</sup> November - Odd Socks Day

Parents Evening - 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> November

Roman Day – 28<sup>th</sup> November

Christmas Jumper Day – 9<sup>th</sup> December

KS1 Christmas Production – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2pm & 6pm

Last Day of Term – 21st December