

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had a lovely time over the summer holidays and are ready to start the new school year. We have moved to Year 2!

The children voted during our transition morning for our new class name. We are St Christopher's Class.

St Christopher is the patron saint of travellers and we think it is apt as we have travelled to Year 2 together. As last year we aim to work

together so that we have an exciting and productive year. We are looking forward to the new challenges that Year 2 has to offer!



### **Key Stage One Routine**

The everyday routine for Year 2 is very similar to last year. The KS1 door opens at **8:40am** for children to begin the school day. Children will still come in and leave school through this door. For safety reasons we do not allow adults past this door. However a member of the KS1 team will be on duty and any messages can be passed through them. If you would like to speak directly to myself or another member of staff please feel free to speak to us at the end of the school day as we are always present to let the children go. It is very important this year that children arrive on time as they will come directly into lessons once they have put away their belongings. This year children will have a challenge task to complete at their tables when they arrive at 8:40am.

### **Curriculum**

In Year 2 the children will take part in English, Maths, Science and RE lessons. As part of the creative curriculum they will also focus on a topic each term with links to the Foundation Subjects. Our first topic of the year is called 'Where in the World?' and has a Geography focus.

Before the summer holidays we asked children to bring in a postcard from their holiday to put on our World map. We will be using these to start our topic so please bring them in as soon as you can. Children will be invited to talk about where they went and their experiences there.

There will be Parent's information Evenings on the Year 2 Curriculum and the Key Stage One SATs that you can attend. You will receive further letters informing you of these dates soon.

Our curriculum overview for the Autumn term is attached with this letter and gives more details about what the children will be learning about this term.

### **Home Reading in Year 2**

Your child can still use their reading folder they received in Year 1. It is still important that your child reads at home and learns their High Frequency words. In the last weeks of Year 1 children's reading levels were reassessed and they were tested on their reading and spelling of the High Frequency Words. These results will be shared with you soon.



In Year 2 we will be preparing for the end of KS1 SATs. They will be taking reading tests and as such their independent reading ability is very important. The aim of our home reading book scheme is for children to practice their decoding skills and improve their fluency by reading these books at home. We will not be reading these books at school. Instead we will read more difficult texts with the children during Guided Reading lessons with follow up comprehension questions.

Children's home reading colours are based on class assessments and will be updated each half term. Each week an adult will check home reading records and ask children to change their home reading book. However we would advise children changed them at least twice week (depending on the length of the text) to help build up their word recognition and fluency.

## Star chart and certificates

As last year children will receive 'stars' in class. These stars are for good behaviour, working hard, being a good friend and excellent effort. Each time they earn a star they will move their name across our star chart. These stars act as house points and every time they achieve ten they will receive a certificate in our Praise Assemblies on a Friday morning.



As the children enjoyed it so much last year, each Friday one child will be chosen to be our Star of the Week. This is recognition of someone in the class who has tried their best and worked well during the week. As a reward they are given certain privileges in the classroom such as going to the front of the line and having their name on the class door. They also receive a certificate. We have designed a new certificate for Year 2!

## Homework

In Year 2 a reading comprehension and maths task will be set each week. These tasks are to help children become familiar with and practise the types of questions they will have to complete during their SATs. Parents are welcome to help but the work must be completed by the child. Children will also have a list of 10 spellings to learn each week. These spellings are part of the Year 2 curriculum and words children will need to know for their tests.

Homework books will be given out on a Friday and must be handed in by the following Wednesday (though if completed they can hand it in before). Spelling Tests will take place on Friday mornings. New homework books will be given out next week.

## General Reminders

- The children will have **PE** lessons on **Tuesdays afternoons**. Please ensure your child has their **correct PE kit** (see school uniform policy) in school and that all items are clearly labelled. Children leave their PE kit in school each half term so they have one less bag to carry in the mornings.
- Any letters or reply slips, which need to be returned, can be put in your child's book bag. The children are used to handing these in during the mornings.
- If your child is ill please inform the school office, likewise please let the school know if there is a change to your collection routine. We will not let any adult other than yourselves pick up your child otherwise.
- Children can bring in their own **water** bottle to keep in class which they can access throughout the day. Please make sure your child's name is on their water bottle.
- Please make sure all items of uniform are labelled. Especially jumpers and cardigans as we had a lot of mixed up items of clothing during last year that could not be identified as they had no names on.
- Please let the school office know if your contact details have changed. The school office regularly sends out newsletters and texts to inform parents of what is happening in school and will need an emergency contact number to get in touch if your child is unwell.
- We are currently updating our website page. You will now find us under the Year 2 tab! Take a look in a few weeks to see what we have been doing in class.

Moving into Year 2 is a big change for all of us, but we hope to make it as enjoyable as possible. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.



Many Thanks,

Miss Hargrove (Class Teacher)



# Year 2 - St Christopher's class

Curriculum Autumn Term 2018-19

Class Teacher: Miss Hargrove



## English

**Fiction 2.1 - *What Would You Do?*** Children read two stories with themes of overcoming worries and facing fears. They develop their knowledge of sentence constructions, joining two or more sentences with 'and' and correct punctuation, and explore using expanded noun phrases to add more detail. They will write a letter in role, a continuation of one of the stories, and their own story based on their own experiences.

**Poetry Unit 2.1 - *Pattern, Rhythm and Rhyme*** Children discuss their favourite lines from four poems, recognising simple rhythm and rhyme and discussing vocabulary choices. They identify patterns in the poetry and work towards class performances of the poems. They create new whole class poems and then they evaluate a class performance.

**Non-fiction Unit 2.1 - *All About Orang-utans*** Children explore the Big Question: Could you keep an orang-utan as a pet? They read the eBook All About Orang-utans, asking questions and collecting facts. They learn about imperatives and how they are used in commands and instructions, writing their own instructions to tell someone how to care for a pet. In a long writing task, they design and write their own mini non-fiction book or report.

**Live Unit 2.1 - *Newshounds*** Children read and discuss a variety of news stories, looking at structure of a news report to develop their skills. They practice recounting events in the past tense and using noun phrases to write captions, as well as writing questions using correct punctuation. Children write news reports about something that has happened at school. Children to edit and proof-read their work before it is published.

## Mathematics

**Place Value** 0–100 and different ways of representing, comparing and ordering these, including ordinal numbers. Understanding place value in numbers to 100 and beginning to use this to add and subtract 2-digit numbers.

**Addition and subtraction** Learning and using addition and subtraction number facts, including bonds to 10, in simple and harder calculations. Adding and subtracting smaller 2-digit numbers to and from larger ones. Adding, subtracting, doubling and halving 2-digit numbers, using an understanding of place value.

**Using money in calculations** Counting in uniform steps, using coins to help us create sequences and find totals.

**2D shapes** Identifying and classifying 2D shapes, using a variety of sorting devices.

**Position and direction; length** Understanding the vocabulary associated with position and movement and then comparing and measuring lengths using cm and m.

## Science:

**Living Things and their habitats:** Identify most living things live in habitats to which they are suited. Describe how different habitats provide the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other. Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including micro-habitat. Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify different sources of food.

## Topic:

### **Where in the World?**

*A study to research, compare and discover the world we live in.*

*How does our home differ to others?*

*What makes our world so unique?*

**Geography:** Share our experiences of different places in the world. Develop map reading skills. Compare local area to a non-European country. Use basic vocabulary to describe a less familiar area. Use aerial images and other models to create simple plans and maps, using symbols.

**History:** Researching Guy Fawkes. Firework festivals and displays around the world. How do other cultures celebrate?

**Music & Art:** Learn about the arts of other cultures. Fireworks art & music compositions.

**D&T:** Design and make products for the our garden using inspirations from art of other cultures we have looked at to influence our own designs and patterns.

## Computing:

Understand use of algorithms. Write and test simple programs. Use logical reasoning to make predictions.

## RE:

**Domestic Church - Beginnings:** '*God is present in every beginning*'.

**Baptism/confirmation - Signs and Symbols:** '*Signs and symbols used in Baptism*'.

**Advent/Christmas - Preparations:** '*Advent preparing to celebrate Christmas*'.

## Physical Health and wellbeing:

**PE:** Games: To develop collaborative and teamwork skills by playing a series of team games. To continue to develop hand/eye co-ordination, control and balance through games.

**PSHE:** Rules - The meaning of rules, appreciation of class rules – a class charter.

Feelings and Relationships - Likes and dislikes, developing confidence, friendship web, teasing and bullying, portraits.