

Homework

We encourage all children to read for 10 minutes every day at home. As the children become more fluent, we will encourage them to take responsibility for changing their reading book once it has been read. We welcome the positive comments you make in the reading record and appreciate the time you take to listen to your child. It really does help them! The children can also work their way towards the top of our reading tree where they will receive a reward for all the wonderful reading they are doing at home. For every week they read four or more times at home they move up a branch on the tree. Once they reach the top of the tree they will receive a small prize for their hard work.

Children will be given spellings and maths homework on a Monday which should be returned by Friday. Please practise spellings daily if possible—little and often is the best way to learn them. Spellings will be tested on Friday morning.

Your child will also bring home a piece of maths work each week. Each piece of work reinforces work already covered in school and should take approximately 15 minutes. (These times are a guideline - some pieces may take less time, some more.)

Key Vocabulary

Please find enclosed a copy of the key words that we will be using in class to support our topic this term. Please spend some time with your child reading through and discussing the words on the sheet. This will help them to become familiar with the new vocabulary and reinforce the learning taking place in school. A copy can be found on our class page of the school website. Thank you!

Termly Challenge

Each term we would like the children to contribute towards the class topic. This term we would like them to begin researching The Great Fire of London at home. They can present this information in any way they wish, e.g. make a poster, create a book, use the Book Creator App on the iPad, email us etc. There is still plenty of time to take part in this challenge if you haven't already done so. Thank you for your support!

Expectations in Year 2

Children throughout the school are encouraged at all times to be polite, diligent and hard working. We want the children to do the best they can and feel a sense of pride and achievement in everything they do. We try to uphold our school motto 'Be Brave, Be Kind, Belong' in all that we do. We put emphasis on the presentation of the children's work and encourage and teach independence and organisational skills.

Class rewards

House points and stickers are given to individuals as reward for excellent behaviour, attitudes and work. Each day a child will be selected to be the star of the day and will get to spend the following day looking after our class mascot 'Twit-Twoo'.

Please don't forget to take a look at our class page on the school's website (www.stminver.org) where you will find photos of the different learning taking place in Year 2. We hope you will find this information useful. If you have any further questions or queries then please don't hesitate to ask.

We look forward to a happy and enjoyable year in Year 2!
Thank you for your support.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Cudmore



Year 2 Class Booklet—Autumn Term 2

Teacher: Mrs Cudmore

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Mably



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a wonderful half term and the children have enjoyed their first week back at school. It has been lovely to see how quickly they have settled back into school routines and to hear all about their half term news. Thank you very much for all the wonderful projects that have been sent in so far about the Great Fire of London. They look amazing and the children have enjoyed sharing the fascinating facts they have found out so far.

The children have really enjoyed our topic 'Here and There with Paddington Bear' and learning about our capital city, London. I wonder how many London landmarks they can tell you about. We begin this half term by travelling back in time to 1666 where we find out about the events of the Great Fire of London. We will find out what caused the fire to spread so quickly and the damage this caused. We will think about the impact this devastating event has had on shaping our fire service today and hope to take a trip to Bodmin Fire Station later in the term.

Hopefully this newsletter will give you an insight into what we will be learning during this half term, although I'm sure some things will change as we go along. I look forward to speaking to you all next week to discuss how your child has settled into Year 2 and to discuss any questions that you may have. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that this half term doesn't fly by as quickly as the first. Christmas will soon be here! This half term we will spend our story time sessions listening to 'The Christmasaurus' by Tom Fletcher.

English

The children have produced some wonderful non-chronological reports about London and written a great description of Paddington Bear. This half term our focus will change from geography to history and we will begin exploring the Great Fire of London. This will lead to recount and diary writing. We will also be writing instructions explaining how to make a Tudor House and will end the term by planning and writing a Christmas adventure for Paddington Bear.

On a weekly basis we will also be covering the following:-

- * Whole class reading
- * Individual reading either independently or to an adult.
- * Handwriting practice — In Year 2 we will begin by focusing on letter formation and the correct use of lead ins before moving on to joining our letters later in the year.
- * SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) lessons.
- * Weekly spellings are sent home to reinforce what is being taught in school.
- * Weekly visit to the library on a Monday afternoon to choose a new book for the week.

Maths

In maths, we continue with our work on addition and subtraction and learn how to add and subtract two 2 digit numbers before moving onto money where we will learn to recognise and count different coins and notes. We will also explore the different ways we can make a given amount and link this to every day life. By the end of Year 2, most children should know their 2, 5 and 10 times tables. They should be able to recall these facts quickly and randomly.

We will be exploring the following units this term:

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| ◆ Addition and Subtraction | ◆ Multiplication and Division |
| ◆ Measurement—money | |

This term the children will take part in a daily 15 minute maths session called 'Snappy Maths'. During this session the children will learn a range of strategies to help them recall their addition and subtraction facts within 10 building on the work they completed in Year 1. Securing fluency in this area will enable the children to make connections in their learning and help them to free up their working memory so that they can reason and problem solve about their maths when faced with more complex problems to solve.

Science

This term our science topic is 'Exploring Everyday Materials'. As part of this topic the children will develop their knowledge of a variety of materials and their properties, learn that some materials occur naturally and some do not, understand that we can change materials by using forces, heating and cooling. We will identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses.

RE

In RE this year we will be focusing on the two religions of Christianity and Islam. We begin the Autumn term by considering who is important to us before learning about who is important to Christians and Muslims. We will explore the following two questions: Who is Muslim and how do they live? Why does Christmas matter to Christians?

Art / Design and Technology

The children really enjoyed creating their silhouettes of London and showed great skill blending pastels together to create their background. This half term, we will be designing and making our own Tudor House. We will also create a replica of our Tudor House so that we can set fire to it and imagine what it would have been like in 1666. This is always an exciting way to end our topic.

Computing

This term and throughout the year we will learn about the importance of how to stay safe online. The children have enjoyed using the iPads and the Book Creator App to create a fact file all about themselves and demonstrated some great ICT skills when creating their map of London. This half term we will begin our coding unit where we will learn that programs respond to different sorts of inputs, and that the keyboard can be used to control objects on screen, not just by clicking them directly.

PSHE (Personal Social and Health Education)

Each week the children will have a PSHE lesson based on the Jigsaw Framework. This half term we begin our unit 'Celebrating Difference'. During these lessons we will discuss some ways in which boys and girls are similar and understand some ways in which boys and girls are different too. We will learn that it is okay to be different from other people and be friends with them and that these differences make us special and unique. The children have enjoyed the responsibility of having a class job and this half term will get the opportunity to change the job they are responsible for so that by the end of Year 2 they will have had experience of a range of roles within the classroom.

Geography / History

To end our Geography unit for this term the children have made some great comparisons between our local area and London and have thought about where they would prefer to live. We begin our history work this week by writing questions we would like to find out about Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot that took place in 1605. We will then learn about the Great Fire of London which took place 61 years later in 1666 and investigate the impact this disaster has had on shaping our fire service today.

Music

The children will have music with Mrs Couch on a Wednesday afternoon and will be focusing on the song 'Ho, Ho, Ho' by Joanna Mangona and Jane Sebba. This is a song with rapping and improvising for Christmas. We will also begin learning and practising the songs for our Christmas Performance.

PE

This term the children will have PE on a Wednesday afternoon with Mr Rickard and a Friday afternoon with Mrs Cudmore. Please remember to send your child into school wearing their PE kit on these days. This half term we will be developing a range of gymnastics skills and learning to create a sequence including a jump, roll and balance. We will also learn to create a dance inspired by the Great Fire of London.