

Curriculum Learning

Over the next half term your children will be working hard to achieve new learning targets. I hope they have an enjoyable time in the classroom and you enjoy seeing your child work with enthusiasm. I have high expectations for each child and would like to work in partnership with parents and carers. So, if you have any comments about your child's learning, please get in touch.

English

Phonics and Spelling

This half term, the children will be working hard to learn the Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words, using different strategies to support their learning, such as Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check or finding the tricky bits. Some children are still working on the phase words and will receive extra support in the afternoon to learn these words. Each child will be taught differentiated phonics and spelling daily through games and learning activities.

We will focus on:

- **Homophones** – words which sound the same with different spellings and meanings e.g. to, two, too.
- the 'dge' sound, spelt as 'ge' or 'dge' at the end of words or 'g' elsewhere in words before e, i or y.
- the 's' sound spelt 'c' before e, l and y.
- the 'n' sound spelt 'kn' and 'gn' at the beginning of words.

Reading

Please encourage your child to read for at least 20 minutes daily. They are asked to read poetry, non-fiction and story books. Each book read should be recorded in the home reading record. Children will be grouped for weekly guided reading sessions (these groups will change as children make progress). We are focusing on written reading comprehension this half term. Please encourage your children to tell jokes as this will develop inference and deduction skills. Some of the punchlines may need explaining!

Writing

We will begin by learning to read and write poetry, focusing on poetry to describe Fireworks. The children will learn how to write a poem following a given structure. We will also be learning how to write persuasive invitations to invite you to our Celebrations Tea-party. The children will be learning how to organise their writing with headings and subheadings in information texts, when they have found out about Christmas and celebrations around the world. We will be continuing to practise writing in joined cursive handwriting. We will be practising writing simple and compound sentences that are correctly punctuated.

Mathematics

This half term we will continue with our daily mental maths sessions where we will be focusing on:

- partitioning numbers in different ways
- recalling adding and subtracting facts to 20 and linking facts to 100
- counting in steps of 2, 3, 5, 10.
- comparing and ordering numbers from 0 up to 100 (and beyond)
- using <, > and = signs
- learning the x2 times tables and beginning to learn the x5 and x10 times tables.

We will continue to focus on being able to apply knowledge and number facts. I will be linking the reasoning and word problems to the topic and making them meaningful wherever possible.

Religious Education

We will be reflecting on the key question – Why did God give Jesus as a gift to the world? The children will be linking the Christmas story and the reasons for the birth of Jesus.

Science

The children will be exploring science in the Forest School Area, focussing on Living Things and their Habitats. They will also be working scientifically in class, considering the things they need to change in experiments and the things they need to measure.

Computing

The children will be taught to use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private, identifying where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content.

Geography and History

Our topic is 'Celebrations' and we will be looking at celebrations in the past and around the World, including Christmas and Thanksgiving. Later in the term, we will be inviting you to visit our 'Christmas around the world' exhibition.

In Geography we will be focusing on learning:

- to use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the UK and its countries, continents and oceans
- to use simple compass points and describe the location and features and routes on a map

Art and Design

In Art and Design we will be focusing on learning to compare our work to the work of the Chinese artist Cai Guo-Qiang and to experiment with colour mixing using charcoal, pastels and paint to create a firework picture. Then we will be designing a sculpture using land art with a winter theme.

Music

This half term, the class will be preparing for the Christmas Carol Service, by learning songs in our Worship through Singing sessions every day.

PE

The children will continue to develop their understanding of core PE skills by participating in the second unit of the Creative play programme. They will also perform dances that link movement patterns.

SEAL/PSHE

We will be discussing firework safety in the first week of the half term. For the rest of the half term we will focus on 'Say no to bullying', linking to Anti-Bullying Week in November. The children will be reflecting on what bullying is, how it feels, why people bully and how we can prevent and respond to it. The children will create a listening ear box for the classroom.

Core Learning Values

We are learning to think about the skills we need to be independent, work together, be a critical and creative thinker and be reflective in our learning.

Other Information

Home Learning

Talk with your child about how their life in the UK is linked to different countries around the world eg. Where our food comes from before it gets to the UK, where the things we use originate from. It would be great if you would like to visit the classroom to share your experiences of travelling to different continents.

Dates for your diary:

Friday 2nd December (pm) - 'Christmas Tea-Party' exhibition (invitations to follow)

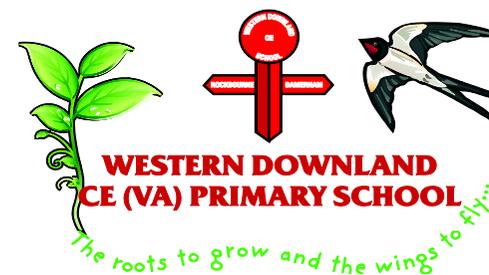
18th November- Non-Uniform Day

2nd December – Christmas Fayre

8th December – Christmas Service

16th December – KS1 Christmas Party

16th December- School Disco



Curriculum Newsletter



Year 2

Autumn 2 Term 2016

Class teacher: Clare Worsfold