



# Jessie Younghusband School

## Year 2 – Curriculum Letter – Spring Term 2023

I hope you all had a relaxing and peaceful Christmas. I wish you all a Happy New Year, and I look forward to an exciting term full of new learning and lots of fun.

I take this opportunity, on behalf of Mrs Ayres, Miss Purdue and myself, to say a huge thank you for the Christmas cards and wonderful gifts that we received at the end of last term – we were very touched by your kind words and generosity. I enjoyed the prosecco, chocolates and Christmas cake in the hamper - and the scented candle smelt lovely. I am looking forward to spending my vouchers. Thank you.

Welcome back to the spring term in Year 2! The purpose of this curriculum letter is to give you useful information relating to your child's learning in the coming term.

The children worked very hard in the autumn term and lots of progress was made in the core subjects. The daily phonics lesson and the new reading books have had a positive impact on reading fluency and spelling. We will be starting the Level 6 programme on Monday. We have enjoyed speaking with you at the school gate in the mornings and after school.

### Reminders:

- Children will need **PE kits** on Mondays and Wednesdays. Long tracksuit trousers and sweatshirt top are needed to enjoy games outside as the weather is cold at the moment.
- **Home Learning task** is set on a Friday with the activity sheet in the home learning books placed in reading folders.
- **Weekly Spelling** rule and list of words will also be found on the back of the home learning activity sheet. The children will be tested on the words at the end of the phonics week. Sharing words, in reading books, that show the same spelling rule that we are learning will help to reinforce the letter pattern and sound. Children will also be bringing home flashcards to support the reading and spelling of tricky words in the Level 6 scheme.
- Children are expected to be able to fluently recall and use, the multiplication and division facts for the **2, 5 10 and 3 multiplication tables** by the end of Year 2 (as specified in the National Curriculum) and we will be having a particular focus on these skills, this term. For example  $1 \times 5 = 5$ ,  $2 \times 5 = 10$ , rather than counting in multiples – 5,10,15,20 ect. Multiplication and division puzzles will take place each week so that the children have the number facts at their fingertips! Other multiplication table puzzles will be set for those children ready to move on.
- Continue to read and learn to spell the tricky words from level 3,4 and 5 of the phonics scheme which are already stuck into home learning books.
- School **reading books** will be changed every Friday. Reading regularly at home is essential. Reading magazines, children's newspapers, joke books, comics ect is also to be encouraged. Reading with your child regularly, and discussing what they have read, will not only help them to develop their fluency and comprehension skills but will also help them to foster a real love of reading. This will also impact on their ideas for writing, sentence structure and vocabulary.
- Children will have the opportunity to '**Show and Tell**'. Items can be brought in, or pictures can be sent by email via the office so that they can be shown. Your child should be able to talk about their items/experiences in some detail, in order to make it worthwhile sharing with the rest of the class!



### Last term:

The autumn term was an extremely busy term for us in Year 2, learning about 'Coastlines and Fossils', and 'An Island Home'. There were many highlights which included:

- Visiting the beach and exploring the Dell Quay coast;
- Making our apple crescent pastries;
- Our paintings; cross-section of the beach and the tints and shades wave pictures on display in the library;
- Enjoying Enid Blyton's, Five on Treasure Island, and cooking island rock cakes;
- Finding out about the amazing lives of Grace Darling and Mary Anning;
- Being history detectives and learning about the life of a smuggler through his box full of tools and smuggled goods;
- School visit to the cinema to see "Sing 2";
- Singing the Christmas songs in the playground.



Thank you for your continued support with home learning tasks, spelling, written methods for addition and subtraction and number facts learning and of course regular reading - your time and efforts are greatly appreciated and they do enhance the children's learning!

### This term:



Our first half term topic is called, '**London Bridge is Falling Down**', and is science based. We will be learning about materials and their properties as well as some of the history of the bridge, linking to the 'Great Fire of London' learning from year 1. We will also be learning to write instructional text in our literacy work. A visit from our history expert is also booked for January, to help us explore the changes in building materials over time.

Our second topic is '**On the Move!**' which has a focus on the history of transport (particularly bicycles and cars). Both topics have many cross-curricular links with literacy, maths, science, design and technology and computing. We also have a visit to The National Motor Museum, Beaulieu, planned in March – more details to follow nearer the time!

This term certainly promises to be an exciting and stimulating one. If you know anyone who has a particular interest in cars or bicycles and would be willing to come into class and talk to the children, please do let me know!

### Ideas for supporting your child's learning:

- <http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html> is a useful website, featuring lots of literacy and numeracy games and activities for Year 2; the children already have log in's for Numbots.
- Practise mental maths objectives from the target cards ( a copy will be stuck into the home learning book shortly) such as counting in steps of 2, 5 and 10; recounting multiplication and division facts; doubling and halving numbers to at least 20. Learning to tell the time on an analogue clock ('o'clock', 'half past', 'quarter to' and 'quarter past' the hour times please!) as this is a topic area this term.
- Have conversations about the materials that can be seen in buildings and street furniture as well as at home. What are objects made from and why?
- Visit the school or local library to research information about the history of cars and bikes.

### Finally

As ever, if you have any questions as the term progresses, or would like to discuss anything with me, please come in and see me at the end of the school day, or telephone the office to make an appointment, if it is more convenient. I look forward to seeing you all at parents evening and sharing the progress your child has made so far in Year 2.

Thank you for your continued support and best wishes for a very happy 2023.

Mrs Saunders