

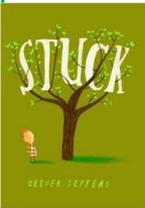
# Year Two Newsletter

September 2017

## Welcome

All the teachers and teaching assistants in Year Two would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child back to School. We hope that you have had an enjoyable summer holiday. The children are settling in really well and having a super start to the year.

## English



Throughout this term we will be learning to use and correctly punctuate, statements, commands, questions and exclamation sentences. We will be adding detail to our writing using simple expanded noun phrases and coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. We will also be learning to



write and spell contracted forms such as can't, don't, and wouldn't. We will do this through contemporary stories by authors such as Mini Grey, Drew Daywalt and Oliver Jeffers, a history topic about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole and a science unit about keeping ourselves healthy. If you would like to support this learning at home, you could read other books by the same authors and discuss their similarities and differences (the local library is free to join if you are not already a member). You could also use books and the internet to research the life and work of Florence and Mary. Throughout the term we will be concentrating on improving our spelling. We will explain more about the Year Two English Curriculum at our first workshop on **Monday 25th September.**

## Mathematics

This half term we will be consolidating and extending our knowledge of numbers, place value and addition and subtraction skills. We will start with practical exploration and move through pictorial representations to more abstract written and mental methods.



We will think about how we have done things and explain why. We will also begin the important job of learning our 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Your help with this rote learning is invaluable.

## Science

In Science we will be learning about the basic needs of animals, including humans, their life cycles and the importance for humans of a healthy lifestyle including exercise, diet and hygiene. We will be offering your child the chance to taste different fruits to see what their favourites are. Please let your child's teacher know if your child has any fruit allergies. You could help your child with this by including them in the decision making and preparation of your meals at home and also by encouraging them to try different foods.



## Music

In our music lessons we will explore pitch and its relationship to the size of certain instrument families. We will use the internet to look at these instruments and listen to the sound they make. We will begin to use music notation to write down pitch patterns we create.

Thank you, from the Year Two Team:

Mrs Griffin, Mrs Hegarty, Mrs Wallach, Mrs Boraston, Mrs Joyner, Mrs Smart and Mrs Bishop

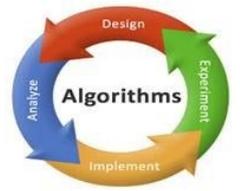
## PE

This term our PE lessons will be every Wednesday and Thursday. Please ensure kits are in school ready for these sessions. This term we will be improving our fitness and ball skills through football and cricket .



## Computing

This term we will be exploring basic programming. We will think about what instructions might have been given to make games work and we will try to give each other instructions to move from one place to another. This is a game you might enjoy playing at home. We will create a background and a sprite and use algorithms to make it move. When your child is playing computer games see if they can tell you what instructions the programmer wrote.



## Art

In Art we will be using paper collage and paint wash techniques to create a background for a picture from the story Three By The Sea. We will think about and evaluate how successful we have been in making our picture look like the artist's.



Following our workshop on The Day The Crayons Quit, we will also be using wax crayons to create different effects. If you are feeling brave, You Tube has lots of videos for art ideas with melted wax crayons! Later in the term we will also make 3D fireworks.

## PSHE

This term we will be thinking about rules, who makes them and why we need rules in society. We will think about how we can be a good friend and will also hold our School Council elections. October is Black History month so we will look at the lives of people, such as Rosa Parks, who changed the course of history for black people.



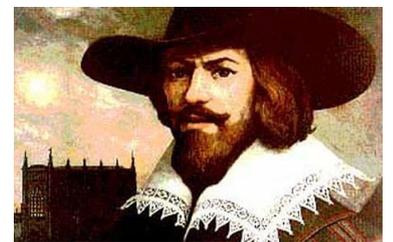
## History



In History, we will be learning about Florence Nightingale and the important role she played in Crimean War and how she changed conditions for wounded soldiers. We will also think about the changes she brought in and how they have affected nursing today.

We will compare the role that Florence played with the role that Mary Seacole played and consider how different their lives and work were.

We will also learn about Guy Fawkes and the role he played in the Gunpowder Plot. We will think about how the failure of the plot shaped history and how our lives might be different today if it had not failed.



## RE

In RE this term, we will learn our school rules and explore what they mean for us. We will learn about the ten commandments that God gave and the two commandments that Jesus gave. We will also look at ways that we can try to help others and why and as part of this the children will have the opportunity to bring food at harvest time and gifts to go under the tree at Christmas.

