

Friday 4th September 2026



Dear Parents/Carers,

A warm welcome back! We hope that you and your family had a lovely summer, but are now ready for an exciting and jam-packed term! The children have made an excellent start to the year. I look forward to seeing you at our Meet the Teacher meeting, which will be held in school on **Monday 7th September at 3.15pm**. Emperors will be taught by Mrs Watkins and supported by Mrs Jeffries

Autumn Term Learning

In **English**, we will start the term with a short piece of writing about the children's hopes and dreams for the year ahead. We will then begin our new narrative unit of work based on the book, 'The Frog and the Stranger' by Max Velthuijs. Following this, we will focus on the text 'How to Make Friends with a Ghost' by Rebecca Green and learn how to write instructions. Our final unit of the half term will be focused on exploring poetry from 'The Puffin Book of Fantastic First Poems' In the second half of the autumn term, we will be reading the wonderful book 'Last Stop on Market Street' by Matt de la Pena. We will finish the term by writing letters and postcards based on the book, 'The Dragon's Post' by Emma Yarlett. Throughout the year, we will be working on writing interesting sentences with exciting vocabulary, capital letters, full stops and using question and exclamation marks, when necessary.

We will have daily **spelling** sessions following the Herts scheme. Some children may continue to have some catch up phonics sessions to give them an extra boost.

In **maths**, we will start with number (securing fluency to 20) and place value (making tens and some more and re-grouping two digit numbers). We will practise counting on and back in ones and tens from any given number, representing, ordering and comparing numbers to 100 and estimation. We will also work on addition and subtraction, adding and subtracting one and two digit numbers mentally. Later on in the term, we will focus on measures, making combinations of different coins and finding change, comparison and measuring using different scales.

In **science** this term, we are learning about living things and their habitats. We will develop our categorising skills by sorting different living things, recap what all living things need to survive and study different kinds of habitats and how animals are adapted to them. After half term, we will move onto a unit on materials. Here the children will have the chance to carry out a number of investigations to explore how different materials have different properties and how they are suited for different uses.

In **history** this term, we will be looking at a number of history makers including people such as Guy Fawkes, Marie Curie, Malala Yousafzai and Emmeline Pankhurst. We will discuss what it takes to be a history maker and attempt to compare and contrast the actions of these significant individuals.

In **geography**, we will be exploring the features of Antarctica, investigating some of the ways that living things can survive there. We will be using maps to identify and locate different continents and oceans and finding out about the different countries, seas and oceans a traveller would pass through on a journey from Canada to Antarctica.

RE lessons this term are focused on Humanism. We will be exploring the question, 'What do humanists believe?' We will be considering how humanists treat others and discussing how we would like to be treated. We will explore humanist beliefs and symbols too. In the second half of term, we will be learning about advent and the nativity. We will explore the question, 'Why do Christians believe God gave Jesus to the world?'

The children will be taught **music** by Mr Dickinson, our specialist teacher, and they will be taught art by Mrs Jeffries. The children's **PE** sessions will be taught on **Monday** by Mr Stevenson-Leigh and on **Friday** by Mrs

Watkins. Children will need to wear their PE kit to school on these days and will remain in it all day so will not need uniform to change into.

In **PSHE**, we will be using Jigsaw, our school scheme. Year 2 will be exploring class rules, making positive choices and thinking about how behaviour can impact other people. The unit for the first half term is 'Being Me In My World'. After half term, we will move onto the 'Celebrating Difference' unit.

In **computing** this term, the children will learn about the technology around them and how it can help them. They will become more familiar with the different components of a computer by developing their keyboard and mouse skills and also start to consider how to use technology responsibly. After half term, we will then look at digital photography. The children will explore different photography techniques and understand what makes a good photo. They will also recap important rules about asking consent before using a photograph of someone.

Home Learning

Home learning is an important part of school, as it helps children to continue learning and make progress. Activities will initially include one English task, one maths task and five spellings words that should be learnt and written out three times. These will be set on a **Friday** and should be returned by the following **Wednesday** in order for them to be marked. From January onwards, the children will be given two pieces of English home learning and two maths tasks.

Please continue to read with your child every day and sign their reading records. To help with your child's learning, please read every night with them for at least 10 minutes and sign their Reading Record. To help with their understanding of what they have read, ask them questions about the book. For example, you could ask about the characters, what has happened in the story, or what might happen next. The children are required to bring in their reading book and reading record to the class every day. Their books will be changed once a week.

The children will have a library slot on a **Friday** afternoon. Please return library books each Friday so that they can be changed.

We will also be continuing with Maths Magicians focusing on supporting pupils to learn key mathematical facts that are essential if pupils are to understand more complex concepts. Children across the school will be expected to work towards knowing and remembering the key facts for their year group, which have been identified on the parent information sheet sent home. Of course, children will be taught these in class, but it is important that they practise these at home too. Please practise the relevant facts for 10 minutes each day. There are 12 stages for the children to work through each term, with a quiz each Thursday. Successful completion of quizzes will result in prizes being awarded in our weekly celebration assembly.

We are going to have an exciting autumn term with lots of fun and interesting learning! Please check for any key dates on the school's website.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with a member of the Year 2 staff and we can arrange a time to meet with you.

Best wishes,

Mrs Watkins, Mrs Jeffries and Mrs Hill