



# Class Rowan Newsletter Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! And welcome into Year 2! I hope you all had a lovely summer break and enjoyed a bit of a rest. I am super excited for this new academic year and I hope the children are too!

We have a great topic to kick off the new year: **Marvellous Me!**

We will be answering the question: **Where do we live?**

During this geography-based topic we will be looking at our local area and then we will delve into the United Kingdom and its four countries, capital cities and most famous landmarks. At the end of this topic we will then use our new knowledge to compare the United Kingdom to a country outside of Europe.

## Maths

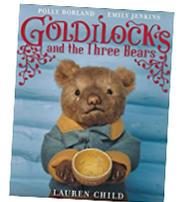
In the first half term we always focus on place value so the children can learn the basic knowledge they need to tackle all other mathematical problems. Place value involves being able to count, read and write numbers up to 100, understanding how many tens and ones are in a given number, being able to compare numbers and developing our use of place value charts and part-whole models. Once the children have this understanding, we can then move on to using this knowledge to answer addition and subtraction problems.

We still use Mathematics in Year 2. I normally set homework based on past learning on Mondays to be completed by the following Monday. I will put your child's Mathematics log in details in their reading record book.

## English



In English we are going to be looking at two wonderful books to ease ourselves into Year 2 English. The first book is "Pig the Pug". A lovely (and very fun) book on sharing and how to be a good friend. Our second book is "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" because who doesn't love a good traditional tale. We will be using these books to look at character comparisons and descriptions, fact sheets, poetry, story writing, wanted posters, letters and how to retell a story in our own way. It is going to be fun!



## Accelerated Reader

In Year 2 the children begin to use Accelerated Reader to determine their reading book level and their understanding of what they are reading. At the beginning of each half term the children do a Star Reader Assessment which gives the children a book level range. Then, after the children have finished a book, they need to log on to Accelerated Reader and complete a book quiz to see how well they have understood the story. These book quizzes earn the children points, the points then go towards the children filling their sunflower and if they fill their sunflower by the end of the half term the children receive a prize. The children can also earn certificates by completing certain targets.



I will send out a more detailed letter about Accelerated Reader after the children have completed their assessments. All log in details and book levels will then be put in the children's reading record.

## Science

Our science links very much to our topic as we will learn all about animals and how all animals, including humans survive. We will do this by looking into animal's basic needs, lifecycles, exercise, healthy eating and hygiene.

## PE

PE will be taught on Tuesdays (by Carlisle United Football Club (CUFC)) and on Thursdays by myself. Please can you make sure the children have their PE Kits (including: top, shorts, joggers, trainers and pumps) for these two days. It is also always very handy if you put your child's name in every item of clothing, because jumpers, t-shirts and shorts can end up everywhere and it can sometimes get very confusing working out what belongs to who.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to get in touch. You can give me a quick email or phone/email the office to organise a meeting if this is preferred. I also hang around for a while after I have handed over the children, so I am more than happy to have a little chat with you then.

Carla Clark