

## Year 2 Newsletter

# Autumn 2024 – Half Term 2

What a successful first half term! Year 2 are settling so well into their classes, creating new friends, and used to the routines and structures in Year 2.

As we are now in Autumn 2 and heading speedily towards Christmas, we are excited about the half term ahead – it is set to be a busy one! We loved starting this half term with a Parent Pop-in, it was so lovely to

meet you all and for you to see the children's work that had been discussed at Parent's Evening. The rooms were full of a happy buzz!



We love their eager approach to coming to school each day and how well they have been thinking about our school values and showing them in their actions.

## Year 2 Learning



We enjoyed celebrating Black History Month in Year 2 and enjoyed learning about Rosa Parks and her significance in History. Her story inspired animated discussions in each class and linked to our school value of equality.

We also learned about **Tinga Tinga art**. Tingatinga art was first created in Tanzania, East Africa in the 1960's. It all began with a man called Edward Saidi Tingatinga. Unemployed and desperate to earn some money, Edward Tingatinga decided to try and paint pictures to sell to tourists visiting Tanzania. He is now seen a famous and successful artist! We loved creating artwork in his style! Our Tinga Tinga leaves are stunning!

Our learning this half term begins with **The Gunpowder Plot!** In **History**, we will be researching facts about the event and those involved. We will link this event to how and why we celebrate November 5<sup>th</sup> with firework displays – especially our own Priory Rise fireworks event! We will then move on to **The Great Fire of London and The Great Plague**. We will discover when, where and how they started and how they ended.



In **English**, we begin our half term as poets creating our firework poems and will be using our very best ambitious vocabulary to wow our readers!

In **Phonics** we will be continuing using our sounds and applying them to our reading and spelling. We will be focussing on our spelling using **Little Wandle Bridge to Spelling**.

We will then move on to non-Fiction text linked to our **History** learning and will be writing about The Gunpowder Plot. We will then move on to recount writing linked to our learning about The Great Fire of London!



In **DT** we will be learning about moving mechanisms and will be making sliders, pivots and levers and wheels. We will apply our skills to plan, make and evaluate moving pictures of The Great Fire of London.

In **RE** we will be learning about the Jewish faith and the story of Hannukah and will also learn about the Christian faith and the story that surrounds Christmas.

In **Science** we are learning about materials, their properties, and their suitable uses in the environment and in our general lives.

In **Maths** we will be learning about 2D and 3D shapes and will then move onto fractions and looking at fractions of a shape.

## Year 2 Home Learning

### Reading

#### How we move from phonics books to colour banded books in Year 2

The Year 2 children continue to follow Little Wandle phonics books until they know all of their sounds and have shown comprehension and fluency in all of the phases. We assess the children each half term as well as using our teacher assessment in Guided Reading. Some of our children are now ready to move from phonic readers.

Once the children have achieved fully in phonics and decodable books, they will be using colour banded books as their reading books. These will be matched to their reading skills and assessed using PM Benchmarking.

As with the phonic books, they will be assessed for:

**accuracy** = reading words with accuracy

**comprehension** = checking that they fully understand what they are reading by answering a range of questions about the text

**fluency** = reading words with automaticity/speed blending at a good pace, aiming for 90 words a minute

**prosody** = reading with expression, using the punctuation to support this

The children will continue to change their books once a week, to ensure that they are able to take their time and enjoy the books . Re-reading a book is a great way to encourage fluidity and prosody.

Thank you for reading **each night** with your child and for adding comments in the red reading record.

### Maths

We use an online homework for our maths MyMaths homework is set each week and is linked to the work we are learning in class. The children can do each piece as many times as they wish and can try to improve their scores.

This homework is set **every Friday**.



### Spelling

Each **Friday**, on Google Classroom, we will place the sounds we have been learning and some of the words that we need to know how to spell.

This will begin on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024



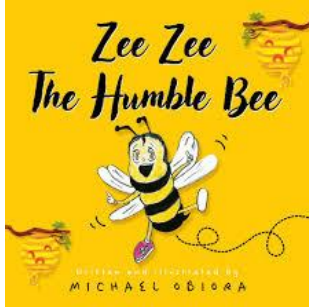
In PSHE, we will continue with our scheme of work 'Jigsaw' and we will continue to have a value for each month.

Throughout November, our PSHE sessions and assemblies will be focusing on the value of **HUMILITY**. We will be considering the importance of humility and

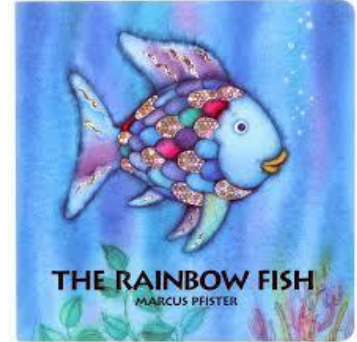
how we can show it.

In December, our value of the month will be **FAITH**. Children will explore this concept through stories, discussion and in assemblies.

## Book recommendations



A young children's story about never dimming your own light to let others shine but remaining humble. Shows the importance of not damaging the confidence of children and teaching them humility in a loving way.



A firm favourite with all children! This is the story of a little fish who learns to show humility.



- **Tuesday 12th November**
- Odd sock day to raise awareness for anti-bullying week
- **Friday 17th November**
- Children in need – wear spots!

We are delighted that we will be performing a Nativity showcase in our school hall for parents in December.

This will be a large part of our learning, lunchtime clubs and enrichment this half term. We have songs to learn, lines to speak loud and proud and of course, some acting too!

- Christmas performances:
- **Wednesday 11th December**  
8:45 – 9.30 am  
2.15- 3:00 pm

2 tickets (using our digital platform where you will have a QR code) will be issued per family – please monitor Arbor emails for more details and for booking arrangements.

- **Thursday 19th December** Christmas jumper and party day



## Staff in Year 2

### Teachers:

Mrs Truan– Assistant Headteacher, Year 2 Leader & Rosen Class Teacher

Miss Scrivener– Rosen Class Teacher

Miss Bulford – Donaldson Class Teacher

Mrs Brazeley – Bright Class Teacher

Mrs Savage - HLTA

### Support staff in Year 2

Mrs Terry, Mrs Bond, Mrs Awad, Mrs Hobbs, Mrs Patel, Ms Russell-Carter, Mrs Carter

### Learning Mentor

Miss Victoria Stanton

## How to contact us!

We are so happy to work in partnership with you and really want the best for all of our children. If you have questions, concerns or are seeking advice please contact us. You can do this :

1. On the gate at the end of the day
2. Write a note in the red reading record
3. Send us an email



We have a new email address:

[Year2@pr5D.com](mailto:Year2@pr5D.com)

Please note, we do not have emails open in class during school hours as we are teaching.  
Please contact the office to inform of changes to home time collection.

Thank you so much for all your support!

We really appreciate all you do, and it really does make such a difference to the progress of your child.

