



MIDHURST C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Headteacher: Mr M Jefferson

September 2023

Dear parents/guardians,

Autumn Term 2023

Welcome to Year 2. I hope you all had a lovely summer holiday; I have enjoyed hearing from the children about all the fun they had. The children have had a brilliant first week, despite the heat, and have settled in well to the routines in Year 2. I am already so impressed with the motivation and determination they have showed towards their learning, and I am looking forward to our learning journey together.

Our topic this term is 'On the Move', which is the same as Year 1. Already the children have been sharing their knowledge of this topic. Here is a brief outline of our areas of study for this topic and term:

- **Science:** We will explore materials and their properties and carry out some experiments to discover which material is best for certain jobs. We will identify the uses of everyday materials in a familiar location, identify and describe the range of materials that can be used to make a single given object, describe how the shape of some materials can be changed by twisting, bending, squashing or stretching, relate a material's physical properties to its uses e.g. describe or demonstrate how a material can be unsuitable for a given task due to its ability to be changed by squashing and bending and compare significant individuals who have developed useful materials e.g. Charles Macintosh and John Dunlop.
- **Geography:** We will explore compass points and learn about the countries and capital cities of the UK, we will learn about the Continents and oceans of the world, use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of the school and its grounds, suggest ways to improve the local environment and design and use maps
- **History:** We will explore some pioneers of aviation and space travel. We will also look at how travel has evolved, and we will visit Beaulieu Motor Museum. Although it is a long day, it has been an excellent trip to really see the differences in vehicles from the past. Separate letter already sent.
- **Design Technology:** We will design, make and evaluate a moving vehicle.
- **Art:** Children will complete colour mixing. They will explore the work of the artist Mondrian and create a piece of work in his style. They will learn a variety of sketching techniques.
- **Religious Education:** We will focus on Judaism for the first half-term and for the second half-term we will be looking at the question: 'What do Christians believe God is like?'
- **Computing:** We will begin by discussing internet safety, learning how to carry out an effective search and making music!
- **Music:** We will explore vocal, instrumental and body percussion sounds, learning how to handle percussion instruments, follow the conductors instructions to start and stop and make loud and quiet sounds. We will make simple compositions to represent vehicles on a journey. Mr. Jefferson will be teaching some of the music lessons in class.

- **Physical Education:** PE kit is required in school for Tuesdays, where the children will be doing gymnastics with me, and Wednesdays, when they will be taught by Aspire.
- **French:** with Madame Byers. This term the children will be focusing on learning about ice-creams. They will name and recognise up to 10 different flavours for ice creams, ask for an ice cream in French using 'Je voudrais' (I would like), say what flavour they would like and learn how to say please and thank you
- **Forest School:** Children will continue their Little Woods Forest School sessions with Miss Channon. A separate letter will be sent about this nearer the time (Year 2 will be going in the Spring term).

In addition, maths and literacy lessons will be linked to our topic work when appropriate. The children will have regular phonics and guided reading lessons (commencing on the 11th of September), as well as other opportunities to practise reading skills by reading to adults in school.

Homework:

Reading: You can help support our work in reading by listening to your child read as often as possible, preferably each day. Our aim is to improve children's confidence, fluency and comprehension in reading. If, when you listen to your child read, they are doing lots of 'sounding out' and lack fluency, takes turns to share the book and model fluent reading to them. Every Monday we will look at how often children have read over the past week, if it is 4 or more times, they will be rewarded with a reading star that week.

Spellings: Later in the term, I will send home spellings for the children to practise, which we will be focussing on in class. It would help children's confidence if you can practice with them at home.

Maths: Later in the term, I will send number facts, or times tables for the children to practise for a weekly test.

This year, the children are very lucky to continue to have Miss Tilley and also to have Ms Rose, who worked with them in Reception, as their teaching assistants.

Should you have any questions you can catch me any afternoon, except Tuesday. Alternatively, please leave a message for me at the office and I will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. E Alden