



# TERM 2

WELCOME TO TERM 2 IN YEAR 2. AFTER A FANTASTIC START, THE CHILDREN ARE SET TO BE EVEN BUSIER THIS TERM AS WE CONTINUE OUR THEME OF 'ARE CASTLES JUST FOR FAIRY TALES?' WE WILL BE CONTINUING AS HISTORIANS WHILST ALSO BECOMING DESIGNERS, ACTORS, AUTHORS AND FOOTBALLERS!

## English

This term is going to be great fun as we explore the world of traditional tales to include their settings, characters and features. We have a fun activity planned to ignite the children's curiosity and will be exploring a well known tale with them (currently top secret) before they become authors and put their own twist on things. We can't wait to see what they come up with!

Grammatically we will be thinking about the use of co-ordinating conjunctions as well as embedding our use of noun phrases and using time adverbials to help structure our writing.

The children have really impressed us in our Term 1 phonics sessions which acted as a great way to revise and consolidate their sounds so far, whilst moving forward with learning some alternative graphemes for the same sounds.

**\*A wish\*** We love to see the children enjoying their phonics sessions but do also need to remind them to then apply their sound knowledge throughout the day in all other lessons. Any encouragement to do so at home would be much appreciated.



## Reading

Thank you so much for all of your efforts so far to read at home with your child. We know that life is busy but really would encourage 5/10 minutes reading at home as often as possible please. Please remember to sign the yellow reading record so that we can celebrate the children's achievements with them in school.

We will be starting our whole class reading sessions in class which are a fantastic way of engaging the children in a range of texts regardless of their reading ability. We find that this really helps to boost their confidence.

Example questions you may wish to try at home could include:

'What time of day was it? Who was going to ...?' (Retrieval)

'Why has the author chosen to use the word ...? What effect does this have on you as a reader?' (Vocabulary)

'How do you think that ... was feeling? Why?' (Inference)



## Are castles just for fairytales?

Our History learning this term is going to be fascinating as we follow on from our learning about the Normans to explore castles in greater detail. On Thursday 23rd November we will be having a 'Castles vs. Fairy Tales' day in order to fully immerse the children in their learning. Children are welcome to dress up as something in keeping with this theme, be it the castles or the fairy tales element. We would emphasise though that there is no expectation and any children who do not wish to dress up, or do not have anything suitable, will have the chance to make their very own crown on the day and will certainly have an equally fun and exciting time. The focus of the day will be to explore the design of castles, their habitats and food fit for a king through a range of hands on activities. Teamwork will be required and the children will be getting involved so please bear in mind that they may be using craft materials and handling food when choosing an outfit. Thank you in advance for your support and watch out for photos in a subsequent edition of MCM!

### Just a note...

This term we will be enjoying lessons incorporating rugby and dance. PE lessons are scheduled for **Monday** and **Wednesday** for both classes. We will be doing dance / yoga and football. Children should come to school in the correct PE kit and sensible footwear.

Please continue to support your child with their homework. It will be given every Friday and please can we ask that it is returned by the following **Wednesday** to allow us enough time to get the work marked and back to you on the Friday.

Year 2 will be rehearsing for their nativity performances near Christmas. We will provide more details in due course.

**Maths:** We will start the term by continuing our work on addition and subtraction. We are working practically to ensure a sound level of understanding and then applying this to questions which build up fluency before tackling more problem solving and reasoning style questions. We will also be looking at the topic of shape so any discussion using the correct vocabulary at home would be really helpful. This includes: **sides, edges, faces, vertices, 2D, 3D, symmetry.**

**Science:** This term we are going to delve a little deeper into the properties of materials by considering which materials will squash, bend, twist and stretch and why this makes them suitable for their use. We have some interesting investigations planned to test our observation skills and our ability to make predictions and draw simple conclusions.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments at all please do not hesitate to let us know through the homework diaries, or by making an appointment through the office.

Thank you from the Year 2 team.