



Gilbertstone Primary School

Year 2 Autumn 1 Newsletter



Hello parents and carers and a big welcome to Year 2

We are looking forward to the new school year and we hope all of our families have enjoyed the lovely summer break. We have already been busy over the last 2 days with lots of activities including our Skills Builder 'Crash Landing' challenge. The children loved collecting clues from a crash landing site to design gadgets and food parcels. We are excited to start this new academic year with your children and have many exciting things planned to capture their interests and imagination throughout year 2!

Literacy

This half term we will be reading *Leo and the Octopus* by Isabelle Marinov. Leo struggles to make sense of the world but then one day he meets an Octopus called Maya and he starts to think differently. During this half term the children will be learning the skills to write a friendship narrative.



Reading

Children will take part in daily Guided Reading, phonics and spelling sessions, working on phase 3, 4 and 5 sounds.

Please remember to read with your child and fill in their orange home reading diary.



Maths

In Maths we are going to be exploring **place value within 100**. This will include **partitioning numbers**, using a place value chart and comparing. We will explore this through different activities. The children will also be counting in their **2s, 5s and 10s**.



Science

We'll be exploring the fascinating topic of **living things and their habitats**. The children will learn how to identify things that are **alive, once alive, and never alive**, and they'll also be matching different plants and animals to the habitats they live in. It's a great way to build their understanding of the natural world around them!

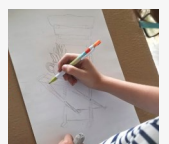


Wider Curriculum

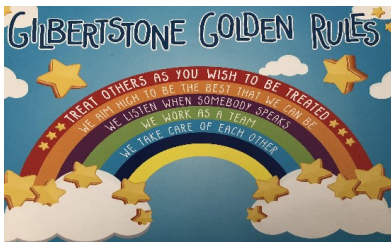
In History our learning will explore the question 'What is a Monarch?' With a focus on Kings and Queens past and present. They will learn about **King Charles III** and what is involved in a coronation and how **William the Conqueror** became King of England.



In Art we will focus on drawing and understanding tone and texture. We will be exploring the artists **Kathē Kollwitz** and **Max Ernst** and how they use these techniques. We will then apply this to create observational drawings. We will experiment with a range of materials to create marks and tones, describe texture of objects and control shading to show tone.



Learning from our first week in Year 2



Year 2 have had a fantastic start to the new term! Over the last two days, we have spent time revisiting our Golden Rules and discussing how they help us create a happy, safe and respectful classroom. The children have designed their own SHINE posters, sharing ideas about how they can demonstrate our school values every day.



We have also enjoyed reading *Emily Brown and the Thing* by Cressida Cowell and used the story to write character descriptions of the Thing using different adjectives.



We are so proud of the enthusiasm and imagination the children have shown already this term!

PE

Outdoor PE will take place on Fridays, and indoor PE will be on **Monday for 2P** and on a **Thursday for 2L**

This term, we'll be focusing on **Ball Skills and Fundamentals**, helping the children to build coordination, teamwork, and confidence through fun and active sessions.

Please come to school in your PE kit.

PE Kits (reminder)

- Trainers or pumps
- Black or navy joggers, leggings, shorts
- White, grey or black t-shirt
- Black, navy or grey plain hoodie or jumper (school jumpers are also acceptable).

Forest School

Forest School will take place **once each half term**, and our first session will be all about **Bushcraft** – a brilliant opportunity for the children to explore nature, learn new skills, and enjoy the outdoors.



- **2P** will have their session on **Tuesday 22nd September**
- **2L** will have theirs on **Friday 25th September**

Other important dates

Spelling Workshops: **Tuesday 8th October**
2L, Thursday 15th October 2P

School Photos: **Monday 19th October**

Year 1 and 2 Halloween Disco: **22nd October**

Thank you for your support!

The Year 2 Team



Mrs Loxton Mrs Khalid
Miss Price Mrs Hart
Miss Clee