



Burlish Park Primary Year 2

Autumn Term Newsletter

Welcome to the first of the Year 2 Newsletters. We are sending this out before the summer break so you and your child can prepare yourselves ready for September. We will share information about the topics we will be focusing on in the Autumn Term and make you aware of key information that will help you in those first few weeks.

Reading As readers, we will continue to build and secure our phonic skills so we can use them to become fluent readers. A super selection of texts will be the driving factor in our English lessons as we develop our comprehension skills. 	Writing As writers, we will use the Year 1 skills of writing sentences with capital letters, finger spaces and full stops and begin to look at writing with more detail and description. We will write a wide range of genres such as letters, diary entries, instructions, recounts and retells.	Maths As mathematicians, we will be developing our understanding and knowledge of 2-digit numbers, paying particular attention to the value represented by the tens and ones digits. This will then help us when we move on to adding and subtracting. We will also learn the names and properties of common 2D and 3D shapes.
Science As scientists, we will answer the question 'How can I keep myself healthy?' The children will learn about nutrition and exercise. We will then answer the question 'Why are different materials important?' and we investigate the uses and properties of different materials.	Computing As digital creators, the children will work to design, create and evaluate algorithms in unplugged (no computer) activities at first and then create computer software using programmes such as Scratch Jr to allow computers to solve problems. 	Music As musicians, the children will study The Nutcracker by Tchaikovsky and discuss its pitch, rhythm, dynamics and tempo. The children will then add physical movements to its beat and perform this to their peers. The children will investigate the features of traditional British music, learning about melodies, how to play instruments and how to record graphic notation.
History  As historians, the children will have the opportunity to increase their awareness of the past; looking at what life was like and how it was different in the 17th century. They will learn about the Great Fire of London and the legacy.	Geography  As geographers, the children will learn the 7 continents and 5 oceans of the world using maps, atlases and globes, developing their understanding of the world in which they live. They will answer the question – Which continent would I like to live in and why?	My Life In our My Life lessons we will be exploring feelings and understanding how different situations change the way we feel. We will also be discussing what makes us special and how we can celebrate differences. After Half Term we will be learning about how to keep ourselves safe at home and at school. 
Design Technology As technicians, the children will explore puppets. Children will be taught to thread a needle and to execute a basic running stitch to join two fabric pieces together and how to applique embellishments onto the front of their puppets using a variety of media.	Art As artists, the children will develop their knowledge and skills of creating a picture using different collaging techniques. They will study the work of Megan Coyle. Pupils will investigate a range of collaging techniques including cutting, tearing, folding, scrunching and twisting.	PE As sportspeople, we will be developing our balancing, running, jumping, hopping and skipping. We will use a range of equipment and play a variety of fun and exciting games. We will also develop our ball skills and our skills within gymnastics. 
RE As Global Citizens, the children will be finding out about the Christian creation story and also why Christmas is important to Christians. They will also learn about how Muslim's live their lives. 	Daily Reading at Home It is vitally important that you listen to your child read at home. Your child will continue to bring home a phonics books linked to the learning in class. This is the most important book to read at home as it matches your child's current ability and will give them a successful and positive reading experience. Please record reading in diaries. Thank you!	Spelling We have an exciting new spelling programme starting in Year 2. New spellings will be given out on a Monday based on a spelling rule learnt about in class. The quiz will be the following Monday. Further information about how to access the weekly spelling list and associated online games will be shared in September.

- **Pencil cases**- We will provide all the stationery that the children require. They do not need their own pencil cases.
- **Forest School**- Visits to Forest School are not weekly as in Year 1. Children do not need wellies in school.
- **PE**- Our PE lessons will be on a Monday and Tuesday so please ensure PE kits are in school.
- **Library** – We will visit the library each week so please ensure books are in book bags.