



BE LIKE JESUS. BE YOUR BEST. BE SAFE. BE CARING.

Durham Class News

Welcome Back

We wish you all a very warm welcome back to school and to Year Two! We hope that you have a fun-filled summer holiday and that you're ready for some exciting and challenging learning in Year Two. We have had a fantastic first few days back and we are so proud of how all of the children have settled in.

Mr Ward will be teaching the class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Parry will be teaching on a Thursday and Friday.

Franciscan Values

As a school, we continue to celebrate our Franciscan heritage through our seven values – based on Franciscan values. The seven values are: Joy, Forgiveness, Faith, Respect, Service, Peace and Stewardship. These underpin all that we do as a school. We will all strive to live out these values on a daily basis but each class will pay close attention to their own value. In Year 2, our value is **faith**. Take some time to think. What is faith? Do you know any Bible stories about faith? How can we show faith in our lives?



Religious Education: 'To Know You More Clearly'

Beginning this September, Year Two (along with EYFS and Year 6) will be moving away from the 'Come and See' scheme and following the model curriculum from the new RED (Religious Education Directory). The RED is entitled, 'To Know You More Clearly' and has been launched by the Catholic Education Service. The curriculum is split into six branches for each year group, which the pupils revisit each year, allowing them to build more systematically on their prior knowledge. This framework will be progressively rolled out across the school over the next two years.

The first branch of the RED is called 'Creation and Covenant'. In Year Two, we will be learning about that the Bible is split into two main parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament. The children will begin to identify where different stories and texts belong in the Bible. We will also learn about stewardship, focussing on how we can be stewards of God's gift of creation in our local community. The theme of stewardship will lead us into learning about the story of Noah, which we will explore in some exciting ways before retelling. As part of this topic, we will also learn about the symbols and actions involved in the Sacrament of Baptism.

Prayer and worship remain an integral part of each day and the children are very welcome to bring in and share any prayers or books on our class prayer table.

English

In Read, Write Inc and Phonics, children will be assessed regularly and placed into groups to support their early reading, spelling and writing. During these Read, Write Inc lessons, we explicitly teach phonics, reading, writing, grammar and spelling.

In our Talk 4 Writing lessons, we will be creating our own version of the story 'Fussy Freda'! This is the story of a girl who was so fussy that she refused to eat anything that was cooked for her. However, Freda's fussy eating soon has disastrous consequences! We will be using the Talk 4 Writing model to learn the story and eventually write our own! We will be focussing on using basic sentence punctuation, how to use commas in a list, conjunctions and adjectives. Following this we will be learning how to write instructions - using imperative verbs and adverbs. Regular practise of spellings (such as the common exception words found in our reading diaries) would be a brilliant way to support your child's writing at home.

Mathematics

As a school we use Power Maths for the teaching of Mathematics. Our first unit is all about Numbers to 100. We will be learning to count numbers to 100, use different ways to show numbers to 100, use place value grids to make and compare numbers, compare and order numbers to 100 and count in 2s, 5s and 10s. Following this we will be developing our understanding of Addition and Subtraction. We will learn how to use related number facts, compare number sentences, make number bonds to 100, add and subtract ones and tens, add 2-digit numbers and 1-digit numbers and subtract.

Additionally, throughout the year, the children will be strengthening their mental recall of basic number bonds called 'Learn Its'. Each morning on entering the class, the children undertake some mental maths questions and the 'Learn-Its' will be part of this task. We will be sending these termly facts home and ask that you support your child to learn these so they become familiar and instantly recalled. We will also be checking the children's grasp of the 'learn it' facts within school too. Thank you in advance.

Science

In Science, our topic is 'Animals, Including Humans'. We will be sorting and grouping different types of animals and their offspring. Then we will be considering how our bodies change as we grow up and how we can stay fit and healthy. We will be exploring the importance of a healthy, balanced diet and regular exercise.

History

In History we will be learning about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. We will be comparing nursing from different periods and exploring how each of these significant individuals made the world a better place today.

Geography

In Geography, we'll be revisiting and consolidating our learning from Year 1 about maps of the world and then we will be learning about the capital cities of the UK, identifying physical and human features of these locations.

Art

In Art the children will be exploring the work of Giuseppe Arcimboldo, who created imaginative portraits made entirely of fruit, vegetables, flowers, fish etc. We will be drawing our own self-portraits using pencil, charcoal and pastels and then creating collages inspired by Arcimboldo.

Design & Technology

We can't wait to get our teeth into this one! Our first DT topic this year is 'Perfect Pizzas'. We will be learning about where some of the typical ingredients used to make pizza come from. We will be applying techniques to cut, peel or grate our ingredients safely and hygienically. Best of all, we will be designing, making and evaluating our own pizzas! Linking with our work in Science, we will also be considering if pizzas are a healthy meal option and should be eaten every day?

Computing

In computing, we will be developing our digital literacy skills by learning about networks. We identify the uses and features of information technology at home, in school and beyond and build our understanding so that we can explain how information technology benefits us. We will also revisit the importance of using information technology safely.

PE

This half term our PE days will be Mondays and Fridays. On Mondays we will have yoga and on Fridays we will be developing our skills in net and wall games.

Music

In Music, our topic is about exploring simple patterns. We will be thinking about how music can help us to make

friends. We will learn to sing, accompany and perform songs with a 'soul' rhythm.

Reading at Home

Children are expected to read for 10 minutes every day and the more often they read the better! This includes reading to an adult. Children will change their own books during our Phonics lessons. For most children this will be on a Wednesday. They are encouraged to read the same book multiple times to develop fluency, expression and comprehension. Our Read, Write Inc Book-Bag Books contain lots of questions and activities to support reading at home. Of course, children should also be encouraged to read more widely too, reading books they have at home or from the library with an adult or independently.

Spellings

In addition to Read, Write Inc Phonics, we will also be introducing Read, Write Inc Spelling programme later this year. This approach will be consistent with our teaching and learning in Phonics and progress into Key Stage Two. The programme helps children to learn methods for working out how to spell words with regular patterns and also has a focus on irregular spelling patterns that need to be memorised. We will keep you informed and let you know when we begin this programme so that you can support with the practise of spellings at home.

If you have any quick questions please feel free to speak to us at the end of the school day once all of the children have been dismissed. If, at that point, you feel you require a longer appointment, we can arrange a meeting via the school office (01773822278).

We are really looking forward to an exciting half term and a fun-filled year.

Mr T Ward and Mrs D Parry

Water Bottles

Children are asked to ensure they bring a filled water bottle to school each day. They are encouraged to drink water throughout the day to aid concentration. Water bottles should be taken home each night for washing.

P.E. Kit

The children will have two P.E. lessons each week – taught by external coaches. Please make sure that your child comes to school wearing their 'active uniform'/PE kit on Mondays and Wednesdays (this is likely to change each half term). Outdoor kit should include: plain black tracksuit bottoms, yellow polo shirt, yellow sweatshirt and outdoor trainers.

Class 'X'

You can follow us on 'X', previously known as Twitter, (@stlizclass22) to see what we are getting up to in class each week and keep up to date with any class notices. This is the same account that you followed in Year One so hopefully this won't create an extra job for many of you. We will endeavour to keep you updated with lots of lovely pictures of our learning in Year 2.

Reminders	
Monday	PE (Come to school in 'active' uniform/PE kit)
Tuesday	
Wednesday	Reading Books Changed
Thursday	
Friday	PE (Come to school in 'active' uniform/PE kit)

Dates For Your Diary		
18.09.24	15:45 – 16:15	Meet the Teacher Event (Session 1)
	16:30 – 17:00	Meet the Teacher Event (Session 2) You are invited to come and meet us in the classroom to find out about the curriculum and routines in Year 2. You need only attend one of the above sessions. We will send out a copy of our presentation so do not worry if you cannot attend.
27.09.24	14:30 – 15:30	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon You are invited to join other parents and members of the school community to nibble, natter and raise funds for the amazing work done by Macmillan Cancer Support. The children are invited to bring in cakes on this day to be sold and money to spend at the cake sale. We'll be holding a raffle too!
07.10.24	Ongoing	Harvest Appeal Launches Please begin to bring in donations for our Harvest Appeal. Donations will be sent to Hope for Belper Food and Community Hub. More information to follow.
17.10.24	15:00 – 15:30	Harvest Celebration You are invited to join us in the school hall for our Harvest celebrations. This will be led by our school Chaplaincy Team but all of the classes will be joining in with different elements.
18.10.24	All Day	Times Table Rock Star Day We will be holding our annual relaunch of TT Rock stars. The children are invited to dress up as 'rock stars' on this day and we will be doing lots of maths and counting activities in class. Children should bring their PE kit to change into and ensure they have appropriate footwear.
23.10.24	16:50 – 18:00	Parents' Consultation Evening Please look out for details from the school office about booking appointments via School Cloud.
24.10.24	15:00-15:30	Year 2 Class Celebration of the Word You are invited to join us as the class lead a Celebration of the Word for the whole school community. The children will be planning and preparing the celebration.
24.10.24	16:50 – 18:00	Parents' Consultation Evening Please look out for details from the school office about booking appointments via School Cloud.
W.C.28.10.24	HALF TERM	

Class Promises

During our first week in Year 2, the children created a list of class promises based on our school rules and mission statement. All of the children have signed up to them and we are delighted to share them with you...

Our Class Promises

We promise to...



Always encourage and welcome others.



Always look after the classroom, tidy things away and clean up after yourself.



Always use our good manners.



Be gentle, look after nature and help our environment.



Always tell an adult if something is worrying you.



Always listen when someone else is talking.



Always help each other, especially if someone is sad or poorly.



Be responsible, looking after other people and our things.



Be patient with each other and be ready to forgive.



Always use kind words, kind feet and kind hands.



Always respect other people's feelings.



Always try our best and never give up.



Always put up your hand if you have a question.



Always walk inside and save running for outside.



Always think before you act and make the right decisions.