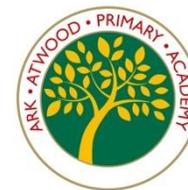


## Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn Term 2nd Half 2018



Off to a flying start with our second half term in Year 2 ! We are continuing to focus on independence with student learning, applying strategies they know and problem solving before seeking adult assistance. We are aiming to be role models of our school values, these can be part of ongoing discussions at home: aspiration, scholarship, perseverance, integrity, respect and enthusiasm! How can students demonstrate these qualities, how can they develop them further? Which need more practice?

This half term Year 2 are delving into history with ‘Gunpowder, Poetry and Plot’ – Who was Guy Fawkes? What was the Gunpowder Plot and why is this a significant British historical event? From here we will look at kingship, history. We are balancing this alongside poetry, exploring types, techniques and poets.

**Achieving Success**

### Computing and Science

In Science, the children are completing a unit of work called “Mixtures and Potions” where they will be discovering how different materials work together to form the objects we use in our everyday life. We will be separating materials, recycling, and creating brand new materials. At the end of term, we will be cooking to examine how chemical changes occur. In Computing we will continue how to use technology in different jobs and how to use the internet safely and appropriately.

### Mathematics

In Year 2 Mathematics Mastery continues with column addition and subtraction. Regrouping to solve equations, which require moving across tens. Word problems to develop students more abstract mathematical thinking. Application of known facts and strategies. This will eventually lead onto multiplication and division. At home please practice, skip counting in 2s , 3s , 5, and 10s . This can be marked on your fingers up to 10x . Maths Meetings are high energy sessions involving chants and songs to consolidate the children’s mathematical learning. Furthermore, we have added a mental maths lesson to our Friday maths slot to encourage children to choose the most efficient strategies when calculating – this supports mental arithmetic.

### Physical Education

In P.E this term the children will be using the Pitch. Children will be building up their strength and stamina with warm up workouts, learning about how these exercises keep us healthy and fit. We will learn all about invasion games, teamwork, sportsmanship and the rules behind common sports. In the playground during break spatial awareness and successful / sensible games involving movement and skill will be a focus.

**Other Useful Information** Every Friday pupils take part in Salsa lessons! Salsa has been a real hit with the children over the years and we are sure that this year’s cohort will be ready to embrace the rhythm. For both classes, P.E will take place on a Wednesday afternoon. **Children will need to come into school already in the correct Atwood P.E kit on Wednesdays , Friday is a choice due to Salsa.**

Our strength as a school community and a Key Stage rests in great home / school communication so any issues as they arise or questions, let Miss Sew or Mr Townsend know. Mr Townsend is always available in person and via email as Key Stage lead. We are looking forward a great end to 2018 ! Onwards and upwards.

### Literacy

For the Autumn Term 2 our topic will be ‘Gunpowder, Poetry and Plot’ . We will begin by looking at Bonfire night, creating firework poems. Can you find these displayed outside the classrooms? Then we study the history behind the Gunpowder Plot – who it involved, what happened and the consequences. Within this we will write fact files, answer comprehension texts, look at the features of formal and informal letters and create storyboards to sequence events. In Poetry we will study the features of a poem, how poems can differ and construct our own poems. We will look at techniques such simile and metaphor, rhyme and rhythm. There will be an explicit daily teaching of spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) taught through phonics and guided reading. We are focusing on handwriting and presentation throughout the term as children begin to join letters and earn much coveted Pen Licences as Christmas approaches!

### Topic

Topic will be linked to our Gunpowder, Poetry and Plot. They will use their research skills to read sources and study historical documents. We will use timelines to give a context to the historical dates. We will compare and contrast modern life with the past, including forms of communication and dress. We will look at changes over time. On Thursdays we now have a Modern Foreign Language slot, in Geography, where we study a culture and its language. Emphasising diversity, world knowledge and experience.

### Music and the Arts

Music includes our Ark Music curriculum where we learn songs and movement. Weekly singing assemblies bring the Key Stage together to learn songs. This will build to a Christmas performance! Art is developing drawing skills such as proportion and representation, to give students the tools they need to represent their ideas.

**Aspiration & Achievement – Scholarship – Perseverance – Integrity – Respect & Responsibility – Enthusiasm**