

# Milton Church of England Primary School



Year 2

Autumn Term 2009

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 2. We are looking forward to a new year with your children and we hope they will have a very happy year with us. We have a fun, busy term ahead of us, as outlined below.

In Literacy for the first half-term we are going to be reading and writing in a range of genres including: non-chronological reports, linked to our Geography topic, instructional texts and poetry. In the second half of term the genres will be: explanatory texts, poetry and instructional texts, linked to Christmas .



In Maths we will continue to develop number facts and skills learnt in Year One as well as extending and teaching new ones. This term's work will include:

- counting in different steps (2s, 5s, 10s, then 3s and 4s)
- continuing varied sequences by adding on/taking away (e.g.- 4, 9, \_\_, \_\_)
- ordering and comparing numbers, including using the greater than and less than signs
- partitioning numbers into tens and ones
- begin to add and subtract by partitioning rather than counting on
- rounding numbers to the nearest 10
- estimating numbers of objects
- number bonds to 10 and 20
- simple multiplication (2s, 5s and 10s)
- measuring length (in cm and m) and mass (in g)
- telling the time (o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to)
- identifying and sorting simple 2d and 3d shapes

Our main topic this half term is An Island Home. It is mainly a Geography unit based on the Katie Morag stories which are set on a fictional Scottish island called Struay. We look at the main physical and human features on the island and use the story to consider small island life. The children will be using maps and photos to help them find out information about the island and how it changes across the stories and with time. We will compare life in Struay with life in Milton. We will also be linking our ICT work this half term to our Island Home topic. The children will learn how to instruct a programmable toy and then create, test and edit a series of instructions to navigate around the island of Struay.



The children will be using ICT within their work frequently this year, therefore we will ensure the children can use and navigate the laptops independently. We will also develop the children's word processing abilities, so they are able to enter, edit and save work independently on several programs.

In Science we will be learning about how to keep healthy this half term. Next half term we will investigate the properties of different materials, linking it to our DT unit in which we explore different puppets and then make our own hand puppets (by sewing two pieces of felt together and adding features).



Through both our Science topics we will extend our experimental and investigative skills by:

- planning an investigation and evaluating the plan afterwards
- exploring fair testing
- making simple observations and comparisons
- recording results in simple tables and bar charts (including on an ICT program)

In Art we will be exploring different lines in our environment and how they make up patterns. We will create patterns with different lines using a variety of medium and finish the unit by creating 3D relief pictures and prints of buildings of Struay (see Geography topic).

In PE this half term we will be improving our Games skills, in particular our rolling and aiming and our football skills. We will also be going to IVC on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September to take part in an inter-school Year 2 multi-skills festival. After half term the children will be developing their passing and throwing in basketball as well as exploring moods and feelings in dance. We have PE on Monday and Thursday in Year 2. Please ensure all of your child's PE kit is named, including their plimsolls.

The children also have an opportunity to take part in after school PE clubs. The Lane Academy runs a series of Dance classes every Wednesday in the large hall from 3:20 to 5:00. You should have already received a letter regarding a Tennis club that is running this term on Fridays from 4:15 to 5:00. Later in the year we will send information about a Football club which will run on Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:30.

In Music we will be exploring pitch using voices and percussion instruments and relating sounds to written symbols. After half term we will also start learning songs and rehearsing for the Christmas play.

In RE we will look at the festival of Harvest at the end of this month and how and why it is celebrated by Christians. The children will also find out about the Jewish festival of Sukkot.

After half term the children will be finding out about the life and times of Jesus. We will also visit the village church at Christmas time.



Maths or Literacy homework is given to the children every Thursday. This should be completed and returned to school by the following Tuesday. It is also very important that the children continue to practise their reading at home. We aim to change book bags three times a week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Should you wish to find out what we are doing each week, we display a weekly summary of the topics/themes for each subject on the window nearest to Year 2, in front of where Class 5 line up. If you want to further support your child's school work, we have listed some websites below that you might find useful.

<http://www.mathszone.co.uk/> (KS1)

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4\\_11/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4_11/) (all subjects)

Since September 2005 PPA time (Planning, Preparation and Assessment) has become a legal obligation in all schools, so each week the children will be taught by another member of staff. In Year 2 we have PPA time on a Thursday, during which Mrs Howes will teach class 5 and Mrs O'Shea will teach Class 6. The children are also supported by Teaching Assistants Mrs Wilson and Mrs Eales.

If you have any questions or queries or something you would like to discuss regarding your child, please do come and speak to us any day.

K. Gray and A. Walker.