

# Autumn 2020 First Half Term



## Welcome to Year 2

### Dolphins, Pandas and Tigers

Welcome to Year 2! We hope you had a happy summer holiday.

#### How do the children learn in Year 2?

In Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) we deliver the national curriculum via the Cornerstones Curriculum.

The Cornerstones philosophy is based on the **Four Cornerstones of Learning**, which brings the curriculum to life. Each stage of learning has its own unique characteristics, which help children learn and remain motivated throughout each **Imaginative Learning Project** (ILP). This philosophy is very powerful and breaks the learning process down to its fundamental parts.



As teachers across the globe know, you need to **engage** the people in front of you before you can **develop** their skills or knowledge. Then, for them to retain this new knowledge, they have to be able to use and apply it in an **innovative** way that is meaningful to them (at whatever level of innovation that is). Finally, they need to **reflect on the learning and express** their knowledge and understanding meaningfully, so as to cement that knowledge and contextualise it.

This philosophy focuses on pedagogy; it develops teachers' skills in planning child negotiated, enquiry led learning and provides opportunities for teachers to develop their range of pedagogic skills. Above all, our philosophy is based around fun and challenge as we believe these are the building blocks of good learning.

#### **Engage**

At the 'Engage' stage, children:

- gain memorable first-hand experiences, such as going on a visit or inviting a special visitor into school
- enjoy 'WOW' experiences
- get an exciting introduction to a topic or theme
- begin researching and setting enquiry questions
- get lots of opportunities to make observations
- develop spoken language skills
- take part in sensory activities
- have lots of fun to fully 'engage' with their new topic.

## Develop

At the 'Develop' stage, children:

- improve their knowledge and understanding of the topic
- develop and practise their new skills
- compose, make, do, build, investigate, explore, write for different purposes and read across the curriculum
- research their own questions and those set by others
- follow new pathways of enquiry based on their interests
- complete 'learning at home' activities that support their learning.

## Innovate

At the 'Innovate' stage, children:

- apply skills, knowledge and understanding in real-life contexts
- solve real or imagined problems using everything they've learnt
- get inspired by imaginative and creative opportunities
- revisit anything not fully grasped at the 'Develop' stage.

## Express

At the 'Express' stage, children:

- become the performers, experts and informers
- share their achievements with parents, classmates and the community
- evaluate finished products and processes
- link what they have learnt to where they started
- celebrate their achievements!

In Year 2 the children will continue to learn both inside and outside. Over the week they will learn in the role-play area, library and other classrooms, just like when they were in Year 1.

Throughout the week the children will complete learning as part of an adult focus group in their own classroom. The children have whole class lessons and experience several guided group sessions during the week in English, Maths and other curriculum areas. These sessions provide instant feedback on their learning, which can easily be tailored to the individual child's current level of understanding and need. Through discussion with the child, the adult is able to assess his/her understanding and move him/her on to the next step, making maximum use of the learning time.

As you know from when your child was in Year 1, each learning activity will have a challenge card, which

explains what the children need to do in order to be successful at the given piece of learning. These activities always have a suggested extension to enable the children to further develop their skills and cater for the different needs of children with a range of learning styles. The supervised independent learning activities enable the children to practise and apply skills learnt during adult focus activities the previous week or to develop a deeper understanding of a

learning objective for that week. They also provide the opportunity for children to develop basic core skills such as fine or gross motor skills, spelling, writing, reading or maths.

The completion of the independent activity ensures that the children use and apply the new learning. It also develops their ability to learn without direct interaction from an adult, therefore developing their concept of themselves as an independent learner. This also helps the children to develop other key skills such as co-operation, resilience and problem solving, whilst taking responsibility for their own learning.

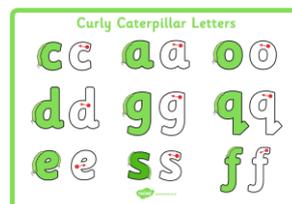


Curriculum Newsletters will be sent home to provide an overview of each part of the topic, this may be weekly or every fortnight depending on the length of the stage of learning. For example the Engage stage this term lasts two weeks.

As when your child was in Reception and Year 1, you are very welcome to continue to come into your child's classroom at the end of the day to share his/her learning as long as you are wearing a mask and use the hand sanitiser which will be provided at the classroom door.

If you would like to come and share learning with your child we will ask you to wait a few minutes until the other children have been collected before you come into the classroom. We look forward to seeing you.

<b>Welcome to Year 2 - Week 1 PSHCE Focus</b>	
	<p>The children will play games to help them get to know the other children and adults in their class and year group. They will become familiar with their new environment, learning where to find the resources they need to be effective learners.</p> <p>As a class, we will discuss how we can learn well together and look after the learning environment. As a group we will agree how we can all make our school a safe, happy place where everyone can learn.</p> <p>The children will use techniques they are familiar with such as collage or drawing and they will create artwork based on their new class animal.</p> <p>They will also discuss which songs they remember and learn new songs to increase the range of songs they can sing as a class.</p>
<p><b>English</b></p>	<p>The children will review their phonic knowledge during daily phonics sessions. The children will have the opportunity to talk to both their friends and adults about their experiences during the summer holiday. They will choose some of these experiences to write about in the style of a recount.</p> <p>The children will also develop their application of key skills such as using capital letters, full stops, finger spaces and conjunctions consistently and correctly in their writing.</p> <p>They will review their writing with an adult and agree on their next step and discuss how they are going to achieve it.</p> <p>Learning both inside and outside the children will be extending their skills relating to letter formation and spelling. We will be particularly focusing on the correct formation of curly caterpillar letters.</p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p>	<p>The children will explore the correct formation of numerals through both small and large scale activities. The children will review their understanding of place value, using a variety of different ways to represent the value of numbers. They will use a range of resources enabling them to extend their understanding of place value.</p>



# The topic this half-term will be **Beat Band Boogie!**



# Learning at home

- Regular reading at home is vital to sustain progress and liaising with staff through the Home/School contact book is invaluable to your child. Children are encouraged to read each night and change the reading book each morning.
- Share the online Phonic Bug books with your child.  
(<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login>)
- Enjoy the weekly Education City activities online with your child - this will be directly linked to the learning they are doing at school that week.



## Dates for your diary

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Open Evening – List will be available the week before to sign for an appointment time.

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

INSET Day – (no school for children)



Year Two Team