

YEAR 2'S HALF-TERMLY NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 1 2024

Mrs Rogers, Mrs Hughes and Mr Dawn

We want to extend a very warm welcome to all our children and families in Year 2! We are looking forward to getting to know you all better and to working alongside you. We hope that all the children will enjoy the new challenges and approaches to learning that Year 2 has to offer!

- Mrs Hughes - Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday afternoon.
- Mrs Rogers – Wednesday morning, Thursdays and Fridays.
- Mr Dawn – Y2 teaching assistant

Please remember that our door is always open. If you have any questions or want a general chat about your child's learning, we will be very happy to speak with you. We are available most evenings after school so please see the office if you wish to book an appointment or schedule a telephone call. It is our priority to ensure that all pupils settle well into their new school year and make the progress we know they are capable of.

We will hold our annual **Meet the Teacher** meeting on: **Wednesday 18th September at 3:30pm** in our Y2 classroom. Y2 pupils will wait in the Y1 classroom until the meeting is over. Please do come along to this meeting, if possible, as we will give out plenty of valuable information about the year ahead whilst also giving parents an opportunity to ask questions.

We will use your child's Learning Journal as a source of communication from time to time so please aim to check these frequently. Parents are free to write a message to teachers in their child's Learning Journal, but please bear in mind that these are not checked every day, so do prompt your child to bring it to the teacher when they get into class.

The Year Two Curriculum

There is plenty of information on our school website about the curriculum, including knowledge organisers, year group specific curriculum maps and home learning resources, so please head over to find out about all of the Year Two Curriculum. You will find this information under 'Children' and then 'Class Pages'.

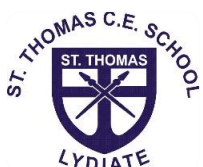
Home Learning

In Year Two, we continue to prioritise reading. We ask that the children read as much as possible at home and as a whole school we ask that everyone reads at home at least 5 times every week. Children who achieve this target are entered into our class reading incentive.

We encourage pupils to read school reading books at home, but to also feel free to read any other book they may enjoy – this could include books from home, a library or even magazines and newspapers. All reading is good reading! All children need to bring their reading packs to school each day. Please record in the journal each time your child reads.

Throughout the year we will be focussing on developing the children's level of comprehension. They will be learning to find answers from the text itself. We will also be encouraging the children to give opinions about what they read and to consider any hidden messages from the author.

Pupils will also continue to be encouraged to access Times Table Rockstars (details to follow) and take part in numerous battles throughout the course of the year. A strong times table knowledge builds an excellent foundation for mathematical understanding, so please do encourage your child to access TT Rockstars daily.



Jesus said, 'Come follow me, live your lives the way God wants you to.'



Spellings

This month's spelling lists have been attached to the newsletter. As part of the weekly homework, children are encouraged to learn a list of spellings and these spellings are tested on the dates shown. Children will mark the spellings in class afterwards alongside the teacher and will share their results with you – it can get very competitive!

Seesaw

Seesaw will continue to be used by class teachers and your login details should stay the same. If you have any problems logging in, please let us know and we can send the details home. Seesaw may be used to send announcements, any extra home learning or even to showcase excellent work, but please note that the message function will not be in use. If you wish to speak to a member of staff, please make an appointment to do so at the school office.

PE

PE in Y2 will take place every **Thursday afternoon** and children are asked to come to school wearing their PE kits on this day. All children must wear the St Thomas' PE kit and are not permitted to wear alternative sportswear.

Housekeeping

We kindly ask that all water bottles, snack pots and items of clothing are clearly labelled – children in Y2 are encouraged to be independent and take responsibility for these items. We also request that children only have one small key ring on their book bags, ideally one that displays their name and not a toy or teddy which can prove to be a distraction in class.

Trips

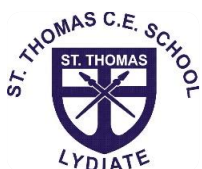
Information about trips will be shared at the Meet the Teacher meeting with more information to be sent home shortly after.

We very much look forward to the year ahead and thank you in advance for your support this year.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at any point this year.

Kind regards, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Rogers and Mr Dawn

Please see overleaf for an overview about what we will be learning this half term.



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Year 2 Curriculum Map
During the Autumn 1 term, we will be learning about:

Maths In Maths we will be learning about numbers and their place value up to 100. We will learn more about addition & subtraction strategies then move onto learning about multiplication & division of 2,5 & 10. We will regularly practise counting and our mental maths and arithmetic skills too. Please continue with Times Table Rock Stars at home.	English In English we will be reading the storybook A River and working towards creating our own circular narrative. We will explore the use of adjectives, expanded noun phrases and adverbials of time to make our writing more interesting. Lessons will also allow us to practise our oral storytelling as well as performing drama and developing our story writing skills too.	RE In RE we will look at the Christian special book, the Bible. We will think about the authors of this book and the messages they convey. We will learn about the new and old testaments and how the Bible is used in churches and by Christians today and the impact it has. We will consider what makes it special and find out about the 'BIG story' of salvation as told in the Bible.
PHSE 'Don't forget to let love in' We will aim to grow in self-compassion this term. The ability to receive love in our lives defines us. Our hearts are made strong because of it. We will discuss how although it can be a challenge to receive it, love never fails.	Geography In Geography we will further develop our map making skills and draw accurate representations of the local area through our topic 'Spatial Sense'.	Science This half term we will learn about the human body. We will learn about the importance of water, food and air for survival. We will also learn about muscles, circulation, digestion and the skeletal system.
PE: Target Games In PE lessons we will be learning about locomotion and jumping. We will practise different types of jumps and use them in sequences and within games too.	MFL Our theme this term is 'I am Learning French'. during French lessons children will be learning how to say simple phrases such as 'what is your name?' and 'My name is' as well as some of the more common colours.	DT This will be delivered by specialist DT teacher Mrs O'Donnell at set dates during the school year.
Phonics Children will continue with daily phonics sessions to help build and develop fluency. As always, children will be placed into ability groups to ensure they are being taught at the correct challenge point.	Music Y2 will be given the very exciting opportunity to take part in African Djembe drumming this half term with a specialist music teacher. These lessons will take place every Monday afternoon starting from the 16th September.	Computing We will have whole days set aside during the school year for Computing.

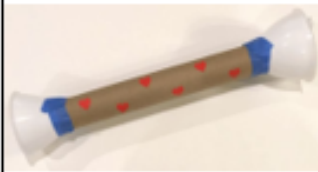
Year 2 Home Learning Menu

Science: The Human Body



Get Creative

Do you know any songs about the human body that you could practise and perform? Can you listen to some children's songs about the human body? Can you create a dance to help you learn the words and can you challenge yourself to compose and perform an extra verse?



Can you create a model stethoscope and use it to listen to your heart and those of your

family?

Oh, the places you'll go!

Eureka Museum Halifax

If you're able to perhaps you could visit the Eureka Museum for a chance to Explore the human body!

Eureka! has six unique zones to discover, each filled with hundreds of interactive exhibits designed to inspire enquiring minds to find out about themselves and the world around them. If you can't visit Eureka? There are plenty of ideas, activities, songs, stories, and stuff to make you smile which are available online.

<https://www.eureka.org.uk/eureka-at-home/>

Time to Teach

Can you draw or create a model of the human skeleton using materials of your choice? You could use any material you want such as pasta, playdough, straws, pipe cleaners etc. Can you use this to teach somebody all the skeletal system and bones?

Reason to Research

What can you find out about digestion and how this affects the human body? Can you record your findings in a poster or a fact file?

Ready to Report

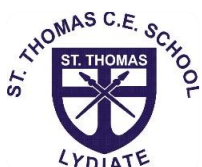
Can you create a report about the human body? You could explore anything you choose about this. This could be a written report/ video/audio report detailing what you have learnt?

You might want to choose from:

- Animals survival and offspring
- The Skeletal System
- Digestion and Healthy Eating
- The Circulatory System
- Germs, disease and preventing illness.

Have it your own way!

Or you can do it your way! Choose to explore the topic further in any way you want. Be creative and do it your way! Use your Science knowledge organiser for ideas and to help you.



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