

# Year 2 Autumn Half Term 2 Parent/Carer Leaflet

## Science - Materials

This half term we will continue to look at different materials and their properties. We will look at how some materials can be twisted, bent or squashed and we will look at how some materials suit their jobs better than others. We will carry out an experiment to see which material makes the best raincoat and why.

## English

We are starting this half term by looking at instructions, which includes looking at Bonfire Night poems. We will write our own instructions on how to stay safe on Bonfire Night. Then we will be reading the story 'Polar Express'. We will have an exciting in-school experience day to immerse the children in this story before doing a piece of writing based on this book.

## Religious Education

We will look at some important dates for some religions such as Diwali, which we will have a special visitor in for, and the Nativity story, which we are going to perform.

This half term our topic is:  
**The Gun Powder Plot**  
What really happened in 1605 and how do we know?

## History

Our History topic this half term is the Gun Powder Plot. We will be looking at Guy Fawkes and deciding if he was truly guilty. In this unit, we will also be looking at King James I and how his actions led to the Gun Powder Plot.

## Mathematics

As well as continuing to practise number and place value and counting in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s, the children will be focusing on some new Maths areas this half term:

- Adding and subtracting. This will be taught both by using base ten and learning how to draw it to help us solve problems and also by solving the problems on a number line.

## Talk lessons

A focus for us this year is developing children's talk skills. Every Monday, your child will have a talk lesson in which they will learn to be effective communicators. Some of the things we are working on are:

- Taking turns when talking.
- Listening well and responding to what others say.
- Speaking loudly and clearly enough to be heard.

## Creative Carousel

We are focusing on printing. We will print our own firework picture using straws, string, potatoes and other materials.

## How you can help

- Continue to read as much as possible at home with your child (we recommend at least **3 times** a week).
- Encourage them to widen the range of books they read to include non-fiction and poetry as well as fiction stories.
- **Make accurate spelling a focus.** Make up games e.g. how many words can they spell in two minutes?
- When completing weekly homework, ensure your child is trying to **write neatly** and is correctly using **full stops and capital letters**.

## PE

We will be doing ball games covering throwing and catching as well as team building.

## Music

We will be learning about pitch and scale.