



# Year 2 Autumn Term 1

Welcome back to school! Last term flew by, and gave the children the chance to really settle into Year 2, I hope this half term will be just as successful. This is always the busiest of half terms and we have so much planned, including a an exciting new topic and a number of celebrations leading up to Christmas. Please make a note of the important dates and remember to look at the latest news on <https://gillibrand.lancs.sch.uk/> and follow us on twitter at @GPSHolly for regular updates of what we get up to in Year 2!

## Important Dates:

- 7<sup>th</sup> November** - Mathematical Problem solving and investigation week
- 9<sup>th</sup> November** - Parents' Evening
- 11<sup>th</sup> November** – INSET Day – School closed.
- 14<sup>th</sup> November** - Anti-bullying Week
- 25<sup>th</sup> November** – Non-uniform day for Christmas Shop
- 30<sup>th</sup> November** – School vision art piece unveiling
- 2<sup>nd</sup> December** - Christmas Shop
- 2<sup>nd</sup> December** – Y2 Christingle Service
- 9<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day
- 12<sup>th</sup> December** – KS1 Nativity (10am and 5.15pm Performance)
- 13<sup>th</sup> December** - KS1 Christmas Party
- 16<sup>th</sup> December** – School closes for Christmas

## Phonics

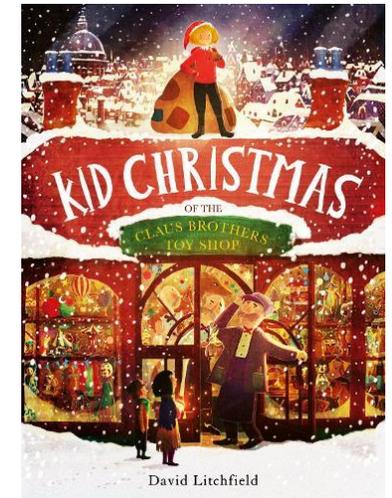
In Phonics we use a Government approved scheme called Phonics Shed. Children will be starting Chapter 4b, and will include the sounds - ay (day) ou (out) ie (tie) ea (east) oy (boy) ir (girl) ue (blue) aw (saw) wh (when) ph (photo) ew (new) oe (toe) au (Paul) Split digraphs a-e (make) e-e(these) i-e (like)

## English

In English we will be focusing on both fiction and non-fiction writing. We will be learning to write instructional texts, using imperative verbs and accurate punctuation to write a range of different instructions for different purposes.

We will be exploring a range of books linked to the theme of Christmas with our key text being 'Kid Christmas - of the Claus Brother Toy Shop'. Using the book, we will be learning different sentence types, including using a range of subordinating and coordinating conjunctions and using expanded noun phrases to describe the various Christmas scenes.

Utilising our learnt computing skills, we will also be writing and sending invitations to our Christmas nativity.



## Reading

In Year 2 we will continue to enjoy daily reading of a range of picture books and poetry. We will also be starting out first class novel 'The Hat full of Secrets' by Karl Newson, a fantastic adventure story about a boy who goes on an adventure wearing his grandad's cowboy hat! Reading books will continue to be changed daily and remember that frequent reading will give you the opportunity to visit the book vending machine! We will also be reading regularly from Mrs Clayton's Mystery Book Box. Weekly 'tricky words' will also be sent home to practice

### Maths

In maths this half-term we will be focusing on using measures. We will be setting up a toy shop in the classroom so children can practise recognising and using the different coins and then making different amounts and giving change. We will be measuring in different units for time, mass and length using lots of practical equipment to measure accurately. Lots of our learning will be outside in the school grounds so please regularly check class dojo as outdoor shoes and clothing may sometimes be required. We will then be looking at statistics, finding totals of objects and interpreting data that we have generated.

### Science

In Science we will be starting a new topic 'Animals including Humans'. We will be learning about what human and other animals need to survive and stay healthy. We will be learning about how different types of animals are born and how different animals change as they get older. We will be investigating why exercise is important and what happens to our bodies when we exercise regularly.

### RE

In RE we will be learning about the Christian festival of 'Advent', we will be learning about all the different Christian symbols represented in a Christingle and creating our own Christingles. We will also be welcoming Reverend Helen from Trinity Church to hold our very own Christingle service.

### PSHE

In PSHE we will be focusing on 'Me and My Relationships'. Children will be learning how to foster and maintain friendships with the important people in their life.

### Music

In music we will be learning traditional carols that we will be performing in this year's nativity.

### Topic

In our topic this half term our main focus will be on historical knowledge within our topic of 'Toys Through the Ages'. We will launch our topic with a toy hunt around the school grounds, using mapping skills learned in Geography. We will be making simple observations about a range of sources and investigating how toys have developed in the past 100 years. We will be learning about the key word 'chronology' and ordering well-known toys on a timeline from oldest to newest.

In Geography we will be exploring the globe, identifying different continents and oceans and planning Santa's route around the world so he visits every continent on his journey.

### DT

In DT the focus will be textiles. We will be using plastic needles and learning how to do a running stitch. Using our new skills, we will be creating puppets.

### Computing

In computing we will be reviewing our learning about online safety. We will be using the iPads to learn how to record, edit and safely share content when we record our Christmas songs and messages for our local community.

### PE

In PE we will be focusing on dance. We will be working with Chorley Sports Partnership, who will be teaching us a dance linked to our topic of toys. We will also focus on ball skills. **P.E days will be: Mondays and Fridays.**