



Ruby Class Newsletter  
**Thorpe Church of England Primary School**  
*Faith, Love and Excellence*  
**Autumn Term November 2023**



Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you and your children had a restful and enjoyable half term break. We have a very busy half term planned and look forward to our Nativity at the beginning of December!

**Morning routine**

Please arrive promptly at 8.40am every morning to ensure your child has enough time to put away all their belongings and to complete their morning learning activity.

**Reminders**

Please can the children bring in the following **named** items every day:

- Warm, waterproof coat
- A bottle of water
- A healthy snack
- Their reading book and homeschool link book

**P.E.** - Monday and Wednesdays.

**Library and Reading books**

The children will have the opportunity to change their library and reading books every **Friday**. Please ensure that books come into school, otherwise we are unable to change them.

Please can we remind you that all clothing, especially jumpers, cardigans and coats, need to be clearly **named**. Children do not need to bring in a pencil case and the children should not bring in any toys to school.

We continue to have 'Marvellous Me' every Friday where children have the opportunity to bring in an item from home.

**HOME LEARNING**

Most importantly, **READ, READ, READ!** It has been great to see lots of children reading frequently each week. Please try to read with your child **every** day (before school or after school!) In addition to decoding phonics, it is really important to develop your child's comprehension skills. Please encourage your child to retell the story in sequence and summarise the main points. Please explore word meanings and synonyms, spotting CEW and finding words with focus phonics sounds within the book (see the front of the books for focus phonic sounds). Furthermore, encourage your child to answer questions about the text from the back of their reading book. It would be fantastic if some of the questions and responses could be recorded in their home school link books as they support our teacher judgements at the end of the year.

**Monday:** Children need to hand in their spelling books on this day and they will be returned with a new set of phonics words on a **Tuesday**. These words will be associated with the class phonics sounds we are focusing on that particular week. Read and write them with your child, along with others you can think of. It would also be really beneficial to get your child to write some of these words within a sentence. They can do this in their spelling books or on paper/in a notebook at home.

**Tuesday:** Children will bring home an 'I can blend' sheet. They need to practise reading the words on the sheet, segmenting and blending the sounds. Again, you may encourage your child to write some of these

words - can they use the sound when spelling words? These words will be linked to the phonics we are learning in class that particular week, previous sounds we have learnt or future sounds we will be covering.

**Friday:** Children will come home with a new reading book.

**Alternate Fridays:** Maths homework will be given out as a Dig1t game. This can be played at home as many times as you like and do not need to be given in.

**Over the half term:** Please complete at least one activity from the Home Learning grid.

#### Online Maths resources:

**White Rose 1 Minute Maths** app: Available for phones and tablets.

**MathsShed:** Play games and quizzes relating to what we are learning in class. Logins and instructions were given out before half term.

**timestables.co.uk:** Click on the 2, 5, 10 and 3 multiplication tables for games and activities. We use the term 'lots of' e.g., 2 lots of 5.

Please look out for the **Homework Topic Grid** that will be sent home with activities the children can complete at home and bring in to share which are linked to our learning in class.

Our PE lessons will continue to be on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** this half term. Please ensure that your child wears their **correct school uniform** PE Kit in school: Yellow T-shirts, Royal Blue or Navy Tracksuit Trousers (no logos), Navy shorts, Trainers or Black Plimsoll shoes). Please ensure long hair is tied back and no earrings are worn on PE days.

Our topic this half term is '**The Great Fire of London**'.

In **English** we will firstly be exploring poetry and writing Firework Poems. We will then be writing about the Great Fire of London and reading and completing story writing based on a story called 'Toby and the Great Fire of London!' Furthermore, we will continue with our daily phonics and paired reading.

In **Maths** we will be learning about addition and subtraction. The children will be supporting their learning by using concrete, visual and abstract methods. We will then move onto our Geometry unit and learn about the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.

**RE:** Why is giving important to Christians? During this unit children will explore the concept of giving as an act of worship and the core idea behind the Christian concept of incarnation - God giving Jesus to the world. We will explore how the Christian community - the Church - aspires to give in many different ways.

**Science:** What do animals need to survive and grow healthily? Children will continue to explore the factors that ensure survival. They will consider how we can keep healthy with a focus on nutrition, exercise, sleep and hygiene.

**History:** Who was responsible for The Great Fire of London? We will be exploring the timeline of events of The Great Fire of London and the conditions that helped the fire spread. We will also read the diaries of Samuel Pepys and John Evelyn and think about how London was re built.

**Art:** How did David Best use art to remember The Great Fire of London? We will explore the works of David Best and use his style to create our own Fire of London paintings.

**Computing:** Online Safety: How can I stay safe online? Children will discuss and identify how to keep things safe and private online. Computer systems and networks: What is a computer? Children will

explore what a computer is by identifying and learning how inputs and outputs work. Through this unit they will begin to gain an understanding of how computers are used in the wider world.

**PE:** Real Dance Children will learn and develop shapes and circles and create sequences of movement with these through partnering and artistry. Real PE Children will develop and apply their jumping and landing and seated balance through focused skill development sessions, cooperative and competitive games.

**PSHE:** Living in Wider World: Diverse Britain (Please see the attached overview)

As always, thank you so much for your support and please let us know if there is anything we can do to support you.

Mrs George and Mrs Graham

## **Year 2 Ruby Class PSHE and Citizenship - Living in the Wider World - Diverse Britain**

### **Autumn 2**

#### **Diverse Britain**

This unit is inspired by the idea that individuals can have a positive impact on groups and communities to which they belong. It aims to enable the children to identify that they belong to various groups and communities and ways in which they contribute positively to these. In this unit, children learn about community, being good neighbours and looking after their local environment. They will also learn about Britain, what it means to be British, about diversity and about tolerance of other people and their beliefs.

**We start each week with enquiry questions which will be used at the end of the unit to assess understanding;**

**Lesson 1:** What does it mean to belong to a community? What can we do to help our class and community?

**Lesson 2:** What is it like in our community? How can we be good neighbours?

**Lesson 3:** What makes our neighbourhood a nice place? How can we keep it a pleasant place for everyone?

**Lesson 4:** What is Britain? What is it like to live in the British Isles?

**Lesson 5:** In what ways can British people be different from one another? How are British people similar to one another?

**Lesson 6:** What does it mean to be British? Why should we be proud of living in the British Isles?

**Children will be taking part in a range of activities, including the following:**

Picture sorting, designing a poster, mime, matching activities, investigating themes in a book, role play, exploring photographic images, flag design and discussion time.

#### **About PSHE and Citizenship Education**

PSHE and Citizenship Education deals with personal, social, health and citizenship education. It is an important part of the school curriculum that aims to teach children the knowledge and skills that they need stay safe, happy and healthy, while preparing them for their life ahead.

We understand that some parts of the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum involve exploring sensitive or controversial issues. That's why all adults involved in delivering the children's PSHE and Citizenship education will make every effort to establish a supportive and positive environment for learning.

Children will be given opportunities to ask any questions they may have, and adults in the class will set aside time to explore any questions or issues that are raised in the course of the lesson.