



Dear Parents and Carers,

Monday 5th September

Welcome to the new year in Class 2. I'm really excited to begin teaching your children at Caton along with Miss Fletcher. As you can see, this term will be filled with so many opportunities for learning, exploration and excitement, so join us for the ride, as we delve into our topic...

On the move

As well as acquiring essential knowledge in key areas, we will be focussing on:

History - Using timelines, research and artefacts to investigate key inventions in transport including aeroplanes, trains, cars and rockets! We will discover how people used to travel and will design cars and aeroplanes of the future!

English - Using the narrative "Mr Grumpy's Motor Car", we will be planning and writing our own transport adventure stories, learning how to use exclamation marks and how to effectively describe characters and settings using adventurous vocabulary. Throughout, we will be focusing on our reading skills, by discovering a wide range of fiction and non-fiction to enhance our vocabulary and writing. In addition, we will be using a biography of Amelia Earhart to begin to write informatively. Our class novels for this term are The Little House - Virginia Lee Burton and The Giraffe, the Pelly and Me - Roald Dahl.

Geography - We will be travelling across the world, as we explore how we can look after the earth. We will learn to locate the world's continents and oceans, and develop map skills to help us navigate.

Art and DT - Get your engineering hats on, as we will be learning and investigating how wheels move to make and design a moving vehicle. We will also study the works of artists such as Julian Opie and Edwina Bridgeman to explore the human form, as we create our own self-portraits and use a wide range of materials to create our own models of a significant figures in transport, such as Henry Ford or Amelia Earhart.

Science - Investigating, sorting and classifying animals into groups. As safari rangers we will explore key characteristics of the animals we encounter. Our learning will culminate with the opportunity to be zookeepers at our own "Caton Zoo" for Reception children to explore and ask questions.

PE - We will be assessing and developing our skills in throwing, catching, agility, balance and kicking. We will do this through a variety of interesting and exciting games.

Forest School - To link in with our science topic on classifying animals we will be learning about creatures big and small that live in the forest. We will hunt for minibeasts, follow animal tracks, build bug hotels as well as create our own dens. We will learn how to cook safely over an open fire as well as have opportunities for tree climbing, using simple tools and track how the forest changes through the season of Autumn and Winter.

Computing - Using our ipads we will discover how to use the internet safely and respectfully as we discover how technology can benefit our lives. We will be creating digital images of our favourite transport inventions, and using Google Earth to discover key transport links.

Finally, we will be sending out a class email to an aerospace engineer, in which we will ask questions about the future of electrical planes.

Music – We will begin by getting to grips with musical vocabulary, including pitch, timbre and texture and will finish the term with the Nativity.

PSHE – We will learn and discuss the importance of keeping ourselves physically healthy, discussing the importance of families and close positive relationships, managing hurtful behaviour, as well as respecting ourselves and others.

RE – We will be exploring two big questions. Firstly, “Why do Christians say that God is a father?” and “Why is Jesus special to Christians?”. We can’t wait for our Christmas nativity!

Maths – Learning all about place value. In year 1, we will be focusing on numbers within 20 and within 100 in year 2, we will build on our skills in ordering, comparing and representing numbers.

PE days: PE will take place on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Mrs Lee and Mrs Cain will be teaching PE on Tuesdays and I will be teaching it on Wednesdays. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school at all times.

Outdoor learning: We will be taking our learning outdoors often, especially during forest school days, so it would be useful for your child to have a pair of wellies that can be kept in school at all times.

Snacks: Children can buy toast at breaktime for 20p a slice. They can also bring in a piece of fruit from home.

Homework

- Reading: We expect the children to read for at least 15 minutes everyday, including Saturday and Sunday. Please sign your child’s reading recording to confirm that this has taken place, this will be checked daily. Children will receive a library book this week and then appropriate phonics/ staged reading books in due course, after our initial assessments.
- Spellings: Year 2 children will be given 5 spellings to learn weekly for a spelling test on Friday (beginning 16.09). Spellings for the whole term will be available on the class page of the website. Please support your child in learning them.
- Phonics: In preparation for the year 1 phonics test at the end of the year, please support your child with regular phonics practice at home, support will be made available within the coming weeks as we begin our phonics sessions in class.
- Times tables/ Number Bonds: Children will be given times table (year 2) and number bonds (year 1) practice, in preparation for a test on Fridays.

I look forward to working with you throughout the year. If you would like to speak to me about anything at all, please do not hesitate to contact me either by email or in person at the beginning or end of the school day.

Best wishes,

Mrs Rebekah Wadson