



# Fishbourne C E Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs N Day MA (Ed)

September 2021

Dear Parents,

Hello and welcome to Year 2! As your child's new Class Teacher I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you all and look forward to getting to know you all as quickly as possible. I am excited to embark upon my second year teaching in Year 2 at Fishbourne Primary. A quick note about me, 3 weeks into September I will be getting married! My name will be Mrs Wales after this exciting event and to try to make things a little easier I will begin the year in September with this name.

As we all know, the last 2 years have been unusual and have presented many challenges. It is hugely important that we work together this year to help all of our lovely Hippos be happy and successful. I would like to start by reassuring you that looking after your children's best interests is my top priority. Please do contact me on the class email whenever you need, I will look at emails daily and will respond to these during the hours of 8am and 5pm. If your email is vital to be seen by the end of the school day (for example, if it is related to a change of usual plans for pickup) please do send this via the office so that is seen in time.

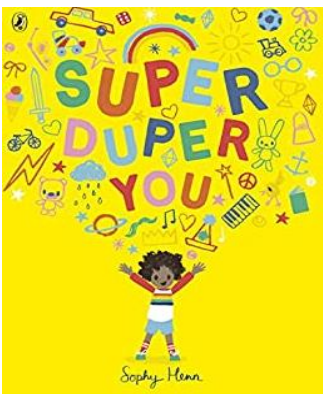
Communication is vital and I am sure we all want to remain feeling as connected as possible, possibly even more so after the last few years. We will be using the Seesaw app/programme for the setting of homework and some small whole class updates so please do make sure you have this set up and checked regularly. If you are unsure of how this works or have any challenges please do not hesitate to reach out and I will be happy to give a quick tutorial.

It was lovely to see the Hippo children entering through the School gates and I do feel we have good relationships built already due to this and the few transition meetings we have had also. I know we will have a fantastic year and together we will be able to do our best for our special little people.

Below is a summary of the learning we will cover in the Autumn Term.

### Getting to know me

We are beginning with a PSHE related Learning Experience which will allow me to really build a relationship with everyone in Hippo Class. We are using the book 'Super Duper You' by Sophy Henn (our Patron of Reading) as our hook for this Experience. When I met the children in July we studied this book a little and completed some activities on this. We are now carrying on and using the book to help us identify what is great about having our own personalities and interests. We will also use the book to help us think about positive relationships and being a good friend. I love to focus on the positive and so, whenever discussing 'the right thing to do' we will always use wording such as 'we/I always will' or 'a good friend is' rather than the negative connotations. Our writing will focus on the children producing a guide to themselves and our main aims will be to produce clear and simple sentences which are punctuated properly, using our phonics for spellings.



### What is God like and Who made the world?

Our first RE based Learning Experience will come next. We will use the story of Jonah and The Whale as a stimulus to guide us through this learning. We will also study the creation story and the beliefs as to how our wonderful world was made.

### Sensational Safari



Our third Learning Experience will involve learning all about Kenya. From animals and wildlife to landscapes and culture, we are sure to discover a place very unlike the area in which we all live but I'm sure we will find some things to relate to along the way. We will have an exciting and memorable hook linked to this Learning



Experience, more about this to follow soon!

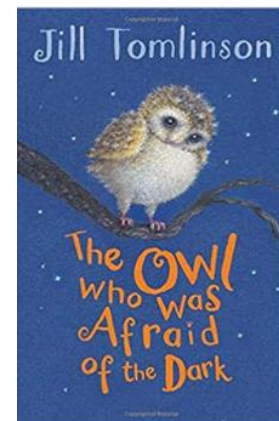
### Art - Picture This!

To finish off this first half-term we will be taking part in a whole school Learning Experience based around developing our Art skills. More details for this will follow.

**Half term will be the week beginning the 25<sup>th</sup> October.**

## Narrative Unit - The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark

Our first narrative unit will be based around this lovely book. We will focus in on some important writing skills such as adjectives and conjunctions as well as mastering our punctuation and sentence structure. In order for this to be even more successful it would be really helpful if all children could have a copy of this book so could I please ask that once we return to School after half-term all children have their own copy. Please note, this could be from the library or second-hand. If you have any difficulties, do let me know!



## Marvellous Materials -

For this Learning Experience we will be investigating materials, including their properties, uses and effectiveness. Our writing focus will be related to the designing and evaluating process as well as creating engaging and effective advertisements for our products. Get ready for a team challenge to complete. Who will be triumphant?!



## RE - Christmas/ Nativity

During the final few weeks of this term we will look at why Christmas is important to Christians. Watch this space for finalised details on how/what our nativity will look like this year!

## Whole Class Texts

As often as possible we will be engaging in reading in whole class lessons, this is something we are hugely passionate about at Fishbourne. The children will be listening to many high level texts to expand their vocabulary and reading knowledge. We will take part in reading lessons where we will use books appropriate for their own stage and activities related to these. I can't stress enough how beneficial it is to read and

share texts daily, even 5 minutes can make all the difference. Reading plays a huge part in our learning and can make other areas of learning more challenging so I really do ask you to keep up with and stick with this. As our reading skills develop we will begin to focus on our reading comprehension and ability to think about and discuss what we have read.

## PE

We are very fortunate to have additional sports coaching this term too from South Coast Sports so please do make sure your child's PE kit is in school on Wednesday and Thursday. Children will be changing for PE in school and back into their uniform before the leave for home. PE will be outside to assist in infection control. Please therefore ensure that as the weather changes, your child has a warm tracksuit to wear.



A few other key factors in Year 2 are listed below, it is a big year and we will continue to aim high!

### 1) Daily Reading at Home

Please listen to your child read every day at home, this is a vital skill that we need to keep working on as much as possible. As your child's reading skills develop do begin asking questions based on what they have read in order to develop their comprehension skills.

### 2) Homework

Homework will be set from Week 2 on Seesaw. This will consist of weekly spellings, mental maths/times tables and a written task or comprehension will be sent home fortnightly. Please let me know if you need paper copies printed but I will aim to make most tasks achievable purely on Seesaw or written into your home learning book.

Please also have a named water bottle in school daily.

Please do get in touch via email to myself or the office if you have any concerns. A reminder of those emails:

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With warm regards

Mrs Gabriella Wales and Mrs Anita Ball

Year 2