

# Fanfares and Fairy Tales

## Curriculum Letter

We have an exciting term ahead of us and here are all the details about what we will be doing with your children.

### First half term

**Literacy and history:** The children will be historical researchers for the first half term, learning about castles. They will learn the language linked to how and where castles were built. They will learn some amazing and disgusting facts about castle life! They will make comparisons with the way we live today. This will include looking at the jobs people did in castle kitchens and the artefacts that they would have used. We will be reading a poetry book about dragons called, 'Tell Me a Dragon.' We will create a word wall of powerful words that we can include in our own poetry.

We will visit **Hever Castle on 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October** to consolidate our learning and to deliver the leaflets the children have written so that visitors can read them. Children will be treated to a medieval tour of the castle, take part in a workshop and will get to look in the museum and experience castle life. Please see the trip letter so that you know which day your child will be going.

**History:** We will look at the battle of Hastings and learn how castles were built to defend. We will also learn about castle life, battles and jobs in the castle. We will look at different castles then and now and use our timeline to understand events way before our living memory.

**Computing:** We are using the programme Purple Mash to develop our understanding of how digital platforms work by sending emails and using the search function to find what we need. We will also be using software to make our own music. We will also be discussing internet safety and how to stay safe online.

**RE:** Sikhism unit- we will learn about the key ideas of Sikhism such as the 5 K's, Guru Nanaks life and what goes on in Guardwara.

**Science/Woodland Rangers:** We will be running Woodland Rangers for 4 sessions. The last session is Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October. We will focus on Animal Habitats in these lessons.

**Art:** We will draw a self-portrait and learn about shading. We will use different collage techniques to decorate our royal portraits which we posed for at the start of term.

**PSHE:** We will be relaunching the rights on our rights respecting rainbow with a focus on 'Play' as our first right. We will hold special assemblies with the themes of how to play well, how to invite and join games and what to do when play goes wrong. This will be through picture books, videos and rich discussions. We will also be naming feelings and looking at how different emotions make you feel and how we can navigate our changing emotions.

### After half term

We will start reading traditional fairy tales with a modern twist and then we will read a few alternative versions. The children will write their own fairy tales which they will then publish into books.

**Design and Technology:** We will be making and designing Christmas or Winter decorations. We will think about our target market and make sure our design fits the design brief.

**Computing:** We will be using Purple Mash again but learning to code. We will learn how to use simple algorithms to code objects and build a computer program.

**RE:** We will learn the first Christmas Story. We will also have our Christmas concert Nativity performance at The King's Church on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 2pm.

**PSHE:** Our Rainbow Right this half term will be feeling safe and cared for and we will take part in discussions around how it feels when our body is safe and not safe. We will also give the children tools and scripts to help them when they are not feeling safe. Children will learn about different careers and understand that gender has been a barrier to promoting careers. We will think about what they would like to do when they are older and look at the skills they have in their own lives and what they are good at. We will also again teach online safety (supported by our previous unit in computing)

#### Throughout the whole term

**Music:** We will be learning about the pulse or beat in music and continue to learn to play the recorder and glockenspiel.

**PE:** We will be developing key skills in throwing, catching and dribbling. We will also complete dance sessions.

**Maths:** We are starting our place value unit where we will look in detail at children understanding numbers up to 100 - How many tens and how many ones are in each number? We will then go on to look at the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and how we can use our place value knowledge to manipulate numbers using maths resources and picture representations. We will also be posing daily problem solving challenges so that the children can explain their mathematical ideas.

**Guided reading:** We will be continuing with our, 'Reading buddies,' paired read this term with children enjoying their reading book 3 times a week in class. We will also be taking part in, 'Book club,' where we read a high quality picture book and discuss the text with lots of prediction and inference, answering how and why questions about the book. Please can the children bring their school book in with their reading records every day in their book bag. On Fridays, we will send home the book they have been reading in class to share at home. Please write in their reading records to let us know how your child got on. Reading regularly with your child is so important and unlocks the whole curriculum, so please read at least four times a week, especially for pleasure where you share a variety of books together.

**Spelling:** Please make sure you learn the weekly spellings that are sent home each week on the Talk To Me Sheet. This will help your child in every area of the curriculum.

If you have any further questions, please talk to your child's class teacher.  
We are very excited about this learning journey.

Year 2 Team.