

# St. Margaret Clitherow Primary Catholic Academy

## Year 2 - Autumn News

## Welcome to Year 2!

I hope that you have had a wonderful summer and are ready for the start of a New Year in Year 2. The children had a marvellous year in Year 1 and this is an excellent opportunity for us to build on the great things they did last year. I am really looking forward to the year ahead and to working with all of the children.

A few reminders:

- Please label **all** of your child's belongings.
- Please ensure that P.E kits are in school every day in case of changes to the timetable. (PE is Tuesday morning)
- At the start of each day, your child will line up on the playground. To increase the children's independence, can you please say goodbye on the playground.
- At the end of the day, the children will be dismissed from the Year 2 door. School finishes at 3:10
- Please provide your child with a fillable water bottle.
- We still have milk and biscuits in Year 2 for a small fee. If you would like your child to have milk and biscuits, please see the office.

## Learning Update

Our topic for the term is 'Blast Off!' Within this topic, we will learn about the Space Race, Neil Armstrong and compare him to another explorer –Christopher Columbus. We will also design and make our own space buggies, looking at the best materials to use. There will be many opportunities to practise our art skills too. We will also look at the life of the artist Thomas Thorpe and create our own pictures based on his work.

The space theme will also overlap into our English work. We will use the books 'The Way Back Home', 'The Man on the Moon' and 'Beegu' to help immerse ourselves in our learning. We will explore each text and then create our own writing including a character description, a letter, a diary and a narrative. The children will continue to develop their skills for writing and be introduced to a range of different sentence types. The children will continue to have daily phonics sessions.

In Maths, we will focus on securing our knowledge of number and place value. This will then help us to develop strategies for addition and subtraction. In all lessons, we will develop fluency, reason and problem solving using the concrete, pictorial and abstract approach.

In RE, we will continue to follow the Come and See Program. Our topics include Beginnings, Baptism and Preparations.

## Reading

Reading is fundamental for all learning. All children will have two coloured book banded reading books. Please encourage your child to read every night and sign their reading diary at least 3 times a week. When you listen to your child read, ask them questions about the text that they have read to develop their comprehension. Books can be changed any day of the week. When your child has finished their books, they need to put them in the box in the classroom. A member of staff will check their diary and talk to your child about their books. We will also have daily reading sessions in the classroom.



## Homework

Homework will be given out on a Tuesday and will need to be returned the following Monday. This will consist of a reading task, spellings and either a Maths, English or RE task. Please encourage your child to complete their homework as it reinforces learning from the classroom.