



Year 2 Autumn Newsletter 2021: Mrs Cross

# Welcome to Year 2!

## Rise up, take courage and do it!



### Key Dates:

**Thurs 23rd September: Mass of Welcome at 10:15am – 11:15am**

**Friday 1st October: Year 2 Mass in Church—9am**

**Mon 4th October: Francis of Assisi Hub Mass**

**Fri 8th October: World Mental Health Day**

**Wed 13th October: Parents Consultations 1:30pm – 3:30pm**

**Thurs 14th October: Harvest Mass 10:15am**

**Thurs 14th October: Parents Consultations 4:00pm – 7:00pm**

**HALF TERM : 18th October – 29th October 2021**

**Mon 1st November: INSET DAY**

**Thurs 11th November : Remembrance Liturgy 11:00am**

**Fri 19th November: NDCYS – Youth Day**

**Tuesday 7th December: Year 2 Christmas Celebration—2:30pm**

**Wed 15th December: Christmas Jumper Day and The BRW Christmas Dinner**

**Thurs 16th December: Advent Mass 10:15am**

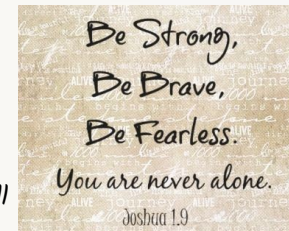
**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS :20th Dec 19 2021 – 3rd Jan 2022**

*A very warm welcome back to all Year 2 pupils and families! I hope you had an enjoyable and restful summer. I am really looking forward to getting to know your children and helping them to learn and grow. As your children are now the oldest children in KS1, I am sure they are eager to take on the new responsibilities and challenges that come with it. Our scripture theme for this year builds upon our 'BRW Spirit Strong' motto; it is 'rise up, take courage and do it!' The children's resilience and bravery shone thought last year and we wanted to continue to celebrate their perseverance and fearlessness. Throughout this year, I hope to work with you to stimulate your children's imagination and ambitions whilst helping them to rise to even greater heights.*

*As always, our RE topics will form a central part of our journey together. Our topics are:*

**Beginnings:** we will explore the children's experiences of beginnings and the creation of the world.

**Signs & Symbols:** The children will learn about the signs and symbols we see around us then we will learn more about the signs and symbols linked to our faith. **Preparations:** the children will learn that Advent is a time for preparing for Jesus. We will think about how we prepare for celebrations in our daily life.



### Handwriting Champions!



*Having legible handwriting is a key life skill and we will be encouraging all children to develop their handwriting and to take pride in the presentation of their work. All of Year 2 will have a handwriting book to take home. When writing, please encourage your child to have both feet on the floor; have a relaxed pen-grip; have enough elbow space; use their non-writing hand to rest on the paper and have their paper tilted slightly.*

## Rise up with courage and confidence: How will you be brave this term?

Our topic this term will be based around a story of courage: a heroic sea rescue led by Grace Darling. In History, we will be exploring the life of Grace Darling and will discuss why she is such a significant individual in history. As Grace Darling lived during the Victorian era, we will study the Victorian novel 'Alice in Wonderland'. In our English lessons, we will use this text to inspire us in our own writing. We will also explore other texts such as 'The Colour Monster' and a range of non-fiction texts and poetry. There will also be a consistent focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar so the children write confidently and accurately. Phonics lessons will take place every day in order to build the children's understanding of the English code and to enable them to become confident readers and spellers. Our Maths lessons will focus on deepening the children's understanding of Number, the four operations and Money. Throughout our lessons, we will explore real-life problem-solving strategies to ensure the children can apply their Mathematical knowledge to everyday-life. Through our Geography lessons, we will be travelling around the world to learn about the continents and oceans that make up our world. The artist William Morris will inspire us in our Art lessons, where we will create our own prints. In PE, we will develop our gymnastic and dance skills. Our model-making abilities will be encouraged in DT when we will make sail boats. This will also engage our scientific understanding because we will be learning about materials and investigating which materials are waterproof.



Keep changing.  
Keep asking.  
Keep growing.  
Keep evolving.  
Keep succeeding.  
Keep moving.  
Keep shining....

I am so looking forward to getting to know all the children in Year 2 and helping them to investigate, discover and learn. Strong home-school links are key to ensuring that your children gain the best support from both school and home so, if you do have any questions, please feel free to get in touch so we can discuss them further. Thank you in advance for your support over the coming term, it is very much appreciated.

## Ways To Help At Home!

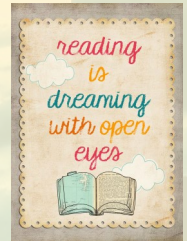
**Spellings:** Year 2 will be given homework on a Monday and it will be due in the following Monday. This will include two spelling lists. The children will choose the list they would like to **challenge themselves** to learn. The Diamond list is more challenging as the words are **new Year 2** words whereas the Ruby group of words are ones that the children will have **experienced in Year 1** (but they may need refreshing). The children will have their spelling test with Mrs Kennelly or Miss Sharpe on a Monday afternoon.

### Handwriting

All Year 2 children will be given a handwriting book to take home. Please encourage your child to bring their book in with completed letters so that they can receive Housepoints.

**Reading:** *"There is no such thing as a child who dislikes reading; there are only children who haven't found the right book."* - Frank Serefini.

At this age, decoding words and reading fluently can still be challenging for many children. We will be working with Year 2 to help them to push past this initial challenge and read as much as possible. This will eventually enable them to enjoy the magic and mystery of story-books. Please support your child in reading their phonics book every evening. Please sign your child's reading record so we can keep up-to-date with their successes at home.



**PE: Earrings:** due to health and safety reasons, earrings must be removed before all PE sessions. Please remove them before school if your child is not able to do this independently. Please help your child to make sure their indoor PE kit (white t-shirt/ black shorts/ socks/ trainers) is with them in school at all times. Year 2 will have one lesson of dance and one lesson of gymnastics each week. Their PE kit will need to be in school all week. Thank you.

**Science:** Please bring in a 'Science lab coat' (this could be an old white shirt) for your child to wear over their uniform during Science investigations.

**Uniform:** Please ensure all your children's clothes are labelled with their name. This helps us to reunite clothes with the correct child!

Mrs Cross