



# GRESTONE ACADEMY

PART OF THE HAMSTEAD HALL ACADEMY TRUST



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***Perseverance • Respect • Independence • Diversity • Excellence***

## Year 2 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here is an overview of what will be happening in Year 2 this half term.

**Curriculum:** Our half term topic is “**Towers, Tunnels and Turrets**” and the main focus for this topic will be History.

**Memorable Experience:** Medieval dress up day.

**English:** Pupils will be describing the parts of a castle as well as the jobs of the various people that lived and worked in them. We will be looking at ways to extend and improve sentence writing by using conjunctions, adverbs and adjectives. We will be writing labels and captions for our castle diagrams. Pupils will be encouraged to use their phonic skills to write new and unknown words.

**Maths:** Pupils will be revising arithmetic skills and working on problem solving and reasoning in preparation for SATs.

**Science:** Pupils will be looking at Life Cycles. They will be introduced to the processes of reproduction and growth in animals including humans. The focus will be on questions that help the pupils recognise growth. We will also be looking at the idea that all living things have certain characteristics that are essential for keeping them alive and healthy. Pupils will be sorting and classifying things according to whether they are living, dead or were never alive, and recording their findings

**Geography:** Pupils will be studying the location of castles.

**History:** Pupils will use a range of historical resources to find out about castles and what medieval life was like for the people that lived and worked in them.

**Music:** We will be learning how to play boomwhackers, a long, thin instrument as well as singing songs and rhymes.

**Art & Design:** We will be studying the work of LS Lowry, focussing on perspective, to produce a piece of artwork in the style of LS Lowry. We will be looking at tunnels and different types of structures and how we can make them stronger.

**P.E:** Pupils will join in with high-energy activities like running and jogging with a focus on team games and working cooperatively.

### **Homework**

- Problem solving and reasoning using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Practise counting money and giving change
- Go to the library to find a book about castles
- Make an information booklet about someone that worked in a castle
- Design and label parts of an imaginary castle
- Find and draw an interesting structure.

### **Reading**

Please encourage your children to read a range of fiction and non-fiction books as frequently as possible. We will be reading and discussing a story called The Tunnel as well as the fairy tale Rapunzel. We will also be looking at non-fiction books about castles and discussing aspects of non-fiction books such as the contents page, glossary and the use of captions and diagrams.

Kind regards,

Mrs Forbes, Mrs Banks, Miss Javid, Mrs Palmer and Mrs Rai