

Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter Spring 1 (2024)

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to welcome you back and hope you all enjoyed a relaxing and productive Christmas break.

Thank you for supporting your children with their half term holiday homework relating to our new topics. Information about what your child will learn this half term is on the reverse of this newsletter.

Should you have any concerns or wish to discuss your child's progress, please feel free to speak to us. We are available to talk after school on most days. We look forward to working with you and your child.

Best wishes,

The Year 2 Team

Dates for your diary

Key dates including class assemblies, enrichment days/events and coffee mornings can be found on our school website calendar or our parent dates letter sent out at the beginning of every half term.

Trips take place each half term and are planned to support the half termly learning. A separate letter is sent to inform you of details for upcoming class trips. These are also added to the school's website calendar.

PE

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school on their timetabled PE days. It is advised that your child keeps their kit in school throughout the week in case of any timetable changes. Children must have a full PE kit (a white t-shirt, black shorts / jogging bottoms, and plimsolls) to ensure personal hygiene and safety.

PE Days:

- Swift Class - Wednesday
- Owl Class - Thursday

Homework

Children in Year 2 should spend a set time each day completing homework and practising spellings to ensure good routine. This should include:

- Completing the weekly literacy and numeracy tasks which will be set on Thursday and is to be returned the following Monday.
- Reading their home reading book for 15 minutes each evening (please sign the diary to show this has been completed).
- Learning their weekly spellings.
- Learning their 2, 5, 10, 3 and 4 times tables.
- Accessing the home learning sites, Times Tables Rockstars and Mathletics.

Our topic this half term is Explorers and Pioneers



Literacy

As Writers, we will be looking at stories with recurring language. We will also be writing a non-chronological report, using subheadings and including factual information. After reading some poetry, we will get the opportunity to write and recite our own to an audience.



Mathematics

As Mathematicians, we will be developing our understanding of addition and subtraction. We will be learning more about money and looking at different combinations to make amounts. Finally, we will be exploring shape further, looking at their properties and using these to make comparisons.



Science

As Scientists, we will learn about plants. We will observe and describe how seeds grow into mature plants. We will also find out and describe how and why plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.



Recommended Reads

- Ice Trap by Meredith Hooper.
- Little People, Big Dreams by Mae Jemison.
- Katie and the Sunflowers by James Mayhew.



Music

As Musicians we will be singing, performing, improvising, composing and listening.



RE & PSHCE

RE: Why do Jewish people celebrate Hanukkah?
PSHCE: Let's work!



ICT

As part of digital literacy we will be working with video programs such as iMovie.



Art and Design Technology

As Artists we will be creating our own 'Sunflower' paintings in the style of Vincent Van Gogh. We will be looking into Van Gogh's painting style with a focus on brush strokes and mixing colours before creating our own Sunflower painting.



History

As Historians we will be recognising and describing the most important achievements of several explorers: Christopher Columbus, Amy Johnson, Captain Robert Falcon Scott and Neil Armstrong. We will be learning about their expeditions and the impact they had on society.



Physical Education (PE)

As Gymnasts we will be looking at different ways to travel over a range of surfaces and apparatus. We will learn to balance along benches, roll in different ways and how to disembark and climb a 'horse' safely. We will then put all these skills together in a sequence.