



Dear parents and carers,

A very 'Happy New Year' to you all! Thank you so much for all your cards and gifts at Christmas. It was very kind and much appreciated by us all.

The following bulletin provides you with details of the work being covered by the children throughout the spring term.

ENGLISH

Spellings will be shared with you via our platform, Spelling Shed. We cover the rules in class, as well as consolidate the children's phonics knowledge to help improve their spelling. We have also shared the spellings of both groups with our parent reps.

All children are part of a phonics reading group, which allows the opportunity to read aloud every day. We encourage parents to read with children at home to further develop their reading skills and comprehension ability. This can be done by reading with them, checking understanding and explaining words that they may not understand and asking them questions about their book.

In our English lessons we will be looking at the work of authors, Anthony Browne and Oliver Jeffers. We will also be exploring writing for different purposes through letters, reports, diary entries, stories and poetry linked to our history topics of 'Florence Nightingale' and 'The Great Fire of London.'

MATHEMATICS

Over the term, we will continue to consolidate the children's autumn term learning of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). We will also focus on working with money, multiplication and division, and measurement. The expectations for children in Year 2 can be found in The National Curriculum. Our Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs) for this term will be to recall doubles and halves to 20 and to recall multiplication and division facts for the 2- and 10-times tables.

We also aim for all children to become confident and fluent in the following:

- Reading/writing (words and figures) numbers to 100.
- Partitioning two-digit numbers into tens and ones and using this to aid 2-digit addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.
- Number facts within 20 ($1+19$, $2+18$...etc, as well as bonds such as $13+4=17$, $12+5=17$)
- Recall of doubles to 10 $+10$ (and corresponding halves) and using doubles to derive near doubles.
- Adding and subtracting 10 and multiples of 10 to a 2-digit number and using this knowledge to add/subtract numbers close to a multiple of 10 (e.g. 9 or 11).
- Learning the 2-, 3-, 5- and 10-times tables and deriving corresponding division facts.

We value your support in practising these skills at home.

SCIENCE

The science topics this term 'Living Things and Their Habitats' and 'Materials'.

We will be comparing things that are living, dead and have never been alive. We will also be completing an in-depth study and comparison of habitats, how animals that live there are adapted to do so and construct simple food chains to begin to understand the concept of an ecosystem.

During investigative work, the children will continue to become familiar with the concept of fair testing and will consider what is required to make a test fair. They will be encouraged to make reasoned predictions, make and record observations, take measurements and discuss and compare predictions versus results.

The children will learn to distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made and will group and sort objects according to scientific criteria. They will become familiar with the concepts of natural and man-made and will learn about properties of different materials and how their properties determine their usage. They will investigate the ways in which some materials can be changed by stretching, bending, compressing, heating and cooling.

COMPUTING

In computing we will learn about coding. We will explore what 'blocks' do, using the app 'ScratchJr,' by carrying out an informative cycle of predict > test > review, programme a familiar story and an animation of an animal, make our own musical instruments by creating buttons and recording sounds and follow an algorithm to record a joke.

For the second half term, we will be learning about the parts of a computer. This unit explores exactly what a computer is by identifying and learning how inputs and outputs work and how computers are used in the wider world. The children will then design their own computerised invention.

HISTORY

In history this term the children will learn about the life and work of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. We will be learning about The Great Fire of London after half term. We will visit the National Archives during this second half of the term. More details to follow closer to the time.

GEOGRAPHY

Our geography will be linked with our history learning. We will be using both historic and interactive maps to understand the spread of the Great Fire of London and globes and maps to locate Florence Nightingale's hospital in Scutari and to track her voyage and to compare this with the journey and work of Mary Seacole.

ART/D&T

The children will focus on developing their observational drawing skills through stories linked to their English class work. This term for design and technology, we will look at mechanisms and how they work. We will create our own working mechanical toy, using levers.

PSHE

Our whole school PSHE programme theme for the first half of this term is 'Dreams and Goals', which includes goal setting, aspirations for yourself and the world and working together.

RE

After half term, the children will be introduced to Islam and discover the ways in which Muslims worship. They will also consider the places that are special for Muslims and why. As the Easter holiday approaches, the children will look at the Easter Story.

PE

For the first half of the term during indoor PE, we will be working on 'dodging.' This involves developing pupils' dodging technique as well as spacial awareness and applying these skills into games. Children will also develop an understanding of why it is important to dodge in games.

After half term we will be doing dance. The children will use their history topic of The Great Fire of London as a stimulus for choreographing their own dances with a focus on creating repeating motifs and using a variety of movements and gestures. NSSport outdoor P.E sessions will continue on Thursday afternoons during which the children practise skills required to participate in a variety of different sports.

MUSIC

This term students will be exploring beat and rhythm using crotchets and quavers through practical actions. Students will be introduced to stick notation and go on to create their own 4-beat patterns, which they will loop creating an accompaniment to perform a song to.

FRENCH

French learning this year in Year 2 is focused on speaking, listening – and singing! Children will absorb the sounds and rhythms of French by listening to and learning a range of French nursery rhymes and songs including *Frère Jacques* and *Tête, Épaules, Genoux et Pieds*. This term we will learn classroom objects, colours and we will consolidate autumn-term learning. Children will learn about how Easter is celebrated in France.

GENERAL POINTS

After half term we are going on a trip to the **National Archives** to bring our learning of The Great Fire of Learning to life.

We will also be performing an assembly during the second half of the term on The Great Fire of London.

We continue to use our Thinking School tools (maps, hats and habits of mind) to support children's learning across the curriculum.

Please keep doing as much reading as possible with your child at home, as well as making use of 'Spelling Shed' and 'Numbots.'

We thank you for your continued support and co-operation and hope that you find this information useful. Should you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best Wishes,

The Year 2 Team