

Curriculum Overview for Parents and Carers

Year 2

Spring Term

This term we will be learning the following things. Here are some useful hints and tips for helping at home!

Overview of Learning

Ideas for Learning at Home

English



To start off the topic, Year 2 will create a character profile on one of the main characters in Orion and the Dark. This will be shared with Year 4 so they can learn more about the character. Afterwards, the children will write a first person imagined recount of an important part of the story and share this piece with somebody else who is afraid of the dark. Then the children will move on to writing an explanation of the life cycle of an egg and a seed.

After half term, the children will be writing instructions in the form a recipe for a disgusting sandwich. Their target audience is parents so be prepare your taste buds for this one! Afterwards, Year 2 will make a persuasive television advert for their disgusting sandwich. To end the spring term, the children will write a three-part narrative to share with each other.

Encourage your child to recite their weekly nursery rhyme or poem and practise their spellings using spelling shed, their homework book or in whichever way suits your child best.

<https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/>





Maths










At the beginning of the term, Year 2 will explore multiplication and division; focusing on writing multiplication statements and seeing the link between repeated addition, counting in 2s, 5s and 10 and dividing by those numbers too. They will learn about odd and even numbers and use this knowledge to double and halve numbers. Afterwards, the children will be introduced to fractions and focus on identifying wholes, equal and unequal parts. They will recognise common simple fractions such as halves, thirds and quarters. To end the term, the children will look at reading analogue time for 5 minute intervals. They will also learn about units of time such as minutes in an hour and hours in a day.

Encourage your children to practise their number bonds and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s at home as this will significantly benefit their learning in various areas of maths.

Find opportunities to ask children the time on analogue clocks.

<p>Science</p> 	<p>This term's science topic is Living things and their Habitats, through which the children will explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive. We will learn about how things that are alive do the life processes: move, respire, have senses, need nutrition to produce energy, grow, excrete, reproduce. We will learn all about what a habitat is, and identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited, describing how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other. Together, we will learn about different world habitats and study and observe a variety of plants and animals in the local habitat, including micro-habitats. The children will also find out about how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identifying and naming different sources of food.</p>	<p>This is a great website for simple science experiments to do together at home: http://www.sciencefun.org/kidszone/experiments</p> <p>Why not have a look in your garden and compare the minibeasts living in different microhabitats? Why do you think this is?</p>
<p>History</p> 	<p>As part of our work on events beyond living memory and significant historical events and people, the children will be exploring the different ways in which travel and transport has changed from the past to present, thinking about how people travelled before trains and cars were invented. We will explore how the first trains and railways were developed and how rail travel changed the lives of people living in the UK. We will think about why steam locomotives are historically significant and learn about famous locomotives such as Locomotion Number 1 and the Rocket. We will look at how and why trains have changed over time and see how the work of George and Robert Stephenson impacted lives at the time they were alive and today. We will look at their achievements and explain how they are significant to our local area. We will be going on a trip to a railway museum to help us look at locomotives in more detail.</p>	<p>The National Railway Museum in York or Shildon are great places to visit to enhance your child's learning about this topic. Their website also has lots of great information about their collections too. https://www.railwaymuseum.org.uk</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Following on from our work on the United Kingdom, we will be looking at Darlington in more detail. We will be learning about settlements and what type of settlement Darlington is. We will explore why people settled in Darlington before developing our map-reading skills to locate Darlington within the North East. We will recap the 4 points of the compass and think about the different symbols used on maps and in atlases to help us to identify which features we can find in Darlington. We will look at human and physical features within maps (including digital maps), aerial photographs and side-view photographs, learning about the local landmarks. To end our topic, we will look at the reasons why people may choose to live in Darlington today.</p>	<p>Use Google Maps to explore different areas in the locality, noticing places with more buildings (urban areas) and comparing this with countryside. This also links with our science work based around habitats.</p>
<p>Art & Design</p> 	<p>In this term's art topic, the children will be learning about circles and lines and exploring the work of Sonia Delaunay and Wassily Kandinsky. In this unit, Year 2 will experiment with lines, dots and shapes using different stroke techniques and thick and thin paintbrushes and then apply this in creating a composition.</p>	<p>Why not create your own composition at home? You could use paint, pencils or ear buds. Can you use different strokes to show different thicknesses?</p>

<p>Design & Technology</p> 	<p>In conjunction with their history topic, the children will be investigating how wheels and axels can be used to create vehicles. We will look at the features of vehicles and what they need to move, before experimenting with using wheels and axels to make a moving chassis. We will use what we have learnt from our 'mock-up' stage to help us to design and create a moving train to meet a set of design criteria: a toy that could be used by children.</p>	<p>Take a look at different vehicles when you're out and about. Can you see how their wheels move? Which other vehicle features can you see?</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>Firstly, this term the children will be learning about Muslims and the religion of Islam. We will think, talk and ask questions about Muslims beliefs and ways of living. Stories will help us understand Muslims beliefs and important figures in their religion. Lastly, we will reflect on how they can set a good example for others and what practises and virtues are good for all people to develop.</p> <p>As Easter approaches, the children will re-visit the stories from the Bible and link with the idea of Salvation (Jesus rescuing people) and Incarnation. We will talk about how these are important parts of the Bible. We will look at how Jesus taught people how to behave through stories and through example. Then we will look at example of how Christians show their beliefs around Easter time.</p>	<p>BBC Bitesize have great videos and information on religions: Islam: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zj3d7ty Christianity: https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-studies-ks1-the-christian-story-of-easter/zhgv47h</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>In PE, Year 2 will continue with their gymnastics unit but focus on developing body management through a range of floor exercises, using core strength to link recognised gymnastics elements and attempt to use rhythm while performing a sequence. In their send and return unit, the children will track the path of a ball over a net and move towards it, begin to hit and return a ball with some consistency and lay modified net/wall games throwing, catching and sending over a net.</p> <p>After Easter, Year 2 will begin their dance unit and aim to describe and explain how performers can transition from shapes and balances, challenge themselves to move imaginatively responding to music and work as part of a group to create and perform. In their second unit of send and return, Year 2 will develop skills to make it difficult for the opponent to score points, begin to choose specific tactics and transfer some of their net and wall skills from the previous send and return unit. The children will improve their agility and coordination in active games.</p>	<p>Please ensure that your child remembers to come in their PE kit every Tuesday. We will be outside in all weathers (within reason) so warm tracksuit, waterproof, hat and gloves are also needed as we continue into winter.</p>
<p>PSHE</p> 	<p>In our first topic, the children will be exploring how we can keep ourselves safe and clean. Year 2 will cover the importance of hygiene and keeping their bodies private. They will also learn the difference between appropriate and inappropriate touch.</p> <p>After half term, Year 2 will be introduced to the protected characteristics and explore some of these further such as religion, disability and race. The children will also explore how families can be different.</p>	<p>https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/ This website is very appropriate for reiterating the important of keeping our bodies private and inappropriate touching.</p>

<p>Music</p> 	<p>In music, Year 2 will begin to understand that musical notes are usually grouped in 4. They will perform from rhythmic notation, including rests and notes that last longer than a single beat. The children will play longer phrases on untuned percussion instruments and body percussion.</p>	<p>Listen to different music and find similarities and differences between them, thinking about the instruments you can hear. Practise identifying the tempo of the music by finding the pulse and seeing if it is fast, slow or in between.</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p>Following the unit on spreadsheets in the autumn term, Year 2 will develop our skills further by learning about data handling tools that can give more information than pictograms. The children will use yes/no questions to separate information and construct a binary tree to identify items. They will be using 2Question (a binary tree database) to help us to answer questions.</p> <p>To complete our computing work for the term, Year 2 will be looking at searching effectively on the Internet, focusing on learning the terminology associated with searching. We will then create a leaflet to help someone search for information on the Internet.</p>	<p>Please encourage your child to be safe when online and keep an eye on our Facebook and Twitter pages for advice to parents regarding online safety for children. Use apps that support their learning. There are lots of amazing free apps and websites!</p> <p>BBC Dance Mat is a great website to practise typing with two hands.</p>
<p>Trips, Experiences and Enrichment</p> 	<p>Locomotion Railway Museum (History)</p> <p>Evening in School & following a recipe</p> <p>World Book Day – Animals (English)</p> <p>Trip to Darlington Town Centre (Geography)</p> <p>Science experiments</p>	

Within school we have 6 values: **Kindness, Respect, Resilience, Fairness, Teamwork** and **Ambition**.
These are interwoven through our curriculum and everyday practice.