

Year 2 Newsletter

Autumn 1

Our topic/theme this half term is:

The Stories People Tell!

In this topic, we will be exploring books and stories to inspire our writing as well as learning about animals and their habitats.

Our Key Texts this half term are The Snail and the Whale, The Day the Crayons Quit, Room on the Broom, The Storm Whale, Billy and the Beast and Into the Forest.

Our English learning this half term:

Reading:

In Guided Reading this half term, we will be focusing on the following objectives:

- Participate in discussion about books, poems and other works that are read to them and those that they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say
- Read words in age-appropriate books accurately and fluently without overt sounding and blending, and sufficiently fluently to allow them to focus on understanding rather than decoding
- Recognise simple recurring literary language in stories and poetry
- Discuss and clarify the meanings of words, linking new meanings to known vocabulary.

Writing:

In Year 2, we will be developing the following writing skills:

- Write for different purposes to develop positive attitudes and stamina for writing.
- Consider what they are going to write before beginning by encapsulating what they want to say, sentence by sentence.
- Make simple additions, revisions and corrections to their own writing by proof-reading to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation

We will be writing journey stories, based on 'The Snail and The Whale'. We will focus on developing the following specific skills:

- 'Add more ways to start a story, using the 'time' starter 'one' e.g. 'One day',
- Use place starters e.g. In a distant land
- Think about how the character feels/what the character wants

We will be writing persuasive letters, focusing on sentence structure and using the correct format. This will be based on 'The Day the Crayons quit, including the following skills:

- Use conjunctions
- Choose adjectives with care and use a comma in a list
- Rhetorical questions

In grammar, we will be covering the following areas: Use expanded noun phrases for description and specification; use co-ordination (and, or, but); use capital letters and full stops.

Our Maths learning this half term:

Place Value

- Count in steps of 2, 3, and 5 from 0, and in tens from any number, forward or backward.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a two-digit number (tens, ones).
- Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations, including the number line.
- Compare and order numbers from 0 up to 100; use $<$, $>$ and $=$ signs.
- Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and in words.
- Use place value and number facts to solve problems.

Addition and Subtraction

- Solve one-step problems with addition and subtraction: using concrete objects and pictorial representations, including those involving numbers, quantities and measures applying their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods.
- Recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and derive and use related facts up to 100.
- Add numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: a two-digit number and ones; a two-digit number and tens; two two-digit numbers; adding three one-digit numbers.
- Subtract numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: a two-digit number and ones; a two-digit number and tens; two two-digit numbers.
- Show that addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot.
- Recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and solve missing number problems.

We will continue to develop our mental maths throughout the half term, by practising key number bonds and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

Our Science and Computing learning this half term:

Science

Our unit of science this half term is focused on animals and their habitats. We will be covering the following knowledge areas:

- Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive
- Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other
- Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including micro-habitats
- Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food.
- Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults.

We will be developing the following enquiry skills:

- Make simple observations
- Notice patterns and relationships, with support
- Use simple features to compare, group and sort

Computing

Our unit of computing this half term is focused on computer systems and networks. We will cover the following objectives:

- I can list jobs done by a computer inside school.
- I can list jobs done by a computer outside of school.
- I can say when it's better to use a computer and when it's better not to.

We will also consider how to use technology safely and responsibly. Our digital literacy topic is focused on staying safe online and recognising websites that are appropriate for our age.

Our Humanities learning this half term:

History:

Our history focus this half term will be on our personal, family histories before looking at changes in the local area over time. We will explore some of the following questions:

- Who am I?
- Who is Rupert Brooke and how is he important to our local area?
- How have the buildings in our local area changed over time?
- What was it like to live in Granchester 100 years ago?

We will be developing the following historical skills:

- Understand some of the ways in which they find out about the past and identify different ways in which it is represented.
- Develop awareness of the past, using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time.

RE:

In RE, we will be learning about Judaism and identifying particularly important elements to the lives of Jewish people: for example, what Jewish people believe, their celebrations, their place of worship (synagogues) and important symbols, festivals and times in Jewish life.

Spanish:

In Spanish, we will be learning to say the Spanish numbers and the names of different animals.

Our Creative Arts learning this half term:

Art:

Children will explore the illustrations of Anthony Browne, how he uses colour and perspective and focusing on sketching and pencil control.

We will develop the following skills:

- Continue to investigate tone by drawing light/dark lines, patterns and shapes, using a pencil.
- Name, match and draw lines/marks from observations.
- Continue to experiment to lighten and darken without the use of black or white. Begin to mix colour shades and tones.
- Use a sketchbook to plan and develop simple ideas and continue to store information on colour mixing, the colour wheel and colour spectrums.

DT:

Linked to our science learning, we will plan, create and evaluate dioramas of a habitat.

We will develop the following skills:

- Design and plan dioramas of different animal habitats through drawing and sketching.
- Make diorama, selecting and choosing appropriate materials and tools (e.g. shoeboxes, card, cardboard, glue, scissors, paints, brushes).
- Construct and attach 3D objects to go inside dioramas.
- Experiment using different methods to attach objects inside dioramas (e.g. sticking, hanging).
- Evaluation of finished dioramas.

Music: Singing

- Children will build on their knowledge of the Solfa scale, learning to sing simple songs in Solfa form.
- Children will also recap Kodaly rhythms (ta, tete, tikatika) and apply them in body percussion (tapping, clicking, marching, stamping etc)

Our PE and PSHE learning this half term:

PE:

Our PE units this half term are **Multi Skills and Health Related Fitness**.

Multi Skills

Continue to learn basic movements of jumping, throwing, catching and running; Develop agility, balance and co-ordination

Health Related Fitness

Learn the importance of exercise, and ways in which you can keep fit and healthy. Understand the effects exercise has on the body through body temperature.

PSHE:

Our unit this half term is '**Rights, Rules and Responsibilities**':

- Name some adults in school who look after them and describe their responsibilities.
- Describe some of the responsibilities they have in the classroom and towards family and friends.
- State classroom ground rules and explain how they have been made.
- Understand why we have classroom rules and describe what the classroom would be like without them.
- Explain what is meant by voting and be able to name some people who make decisions at school.
- Share information, opinions and feelings and listen to those of others, as part of a class discussion.

Key Vocabulary

Key Vocabulary for this half term:

Maths

Place value, tens, ones, greater than, less than, equal to, two-digit, partition, hundreds, regroup, represents, stands for, exchange, one-, two-, three-digit number, numerals, one, two, three... to hundred, multiples, one more, one less, equal to, more than, less than, fewer, most, least, first, second, third, forwards, backwards, few, fewest, odd and even.

English

Noun, Expanded noun phrase, past tense, beginning, build up, problem, resolution, ending, characters, settings, dialogue, innovation, description, adjectives, sequencing, conjunctions, so, because, box up plan, story map, convincing and rhetorical questions.

Science

Habitat, microhabitat, life processes, reproduction, basic needs, survival, diorama, adapted, offspring, reproduction, food chain, food source, prey, predator, protection and diet.

History

Author, illustrator, audience, purpose, past, present, timeline, chronological order, unique, special, family tree, autobiography, sequence, vicarage, thatched and orchard.

RE

Judaism, Jews, Jewish, Synagogue, symbols, festivals, celebrations, Torah, Ten Commandments, Shabbat (Shabbath), prayers, Bimah, Ark, Siddur, Torah Scrolls, The Eternal Light, Memorial Boards, Star of David, Menorah, Mezuzah, Bat Mitzvah, Wedding, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Pesach and Shavuot.