

Year 2 Newsletter

Spring 2

Our topic/theme this half term is:

Incredible India

In this topic, we will be learning about:

- We will think about the geography, culture and art in India.
- How and where people may choose to worship.
- How living things are suited to different habitats around the world.

Our Key Texts this half term are:

- Nimesh the Adventurer
- The Proudest Blue
- Lila and the Secret of Rain
- Rainbow Bird
- Katie in London
- How the tiger got his stripes

Our English learning this half term:

Reading:

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

- Listening to, discussing and expressing views about a wide range of contemporary and classic poetry, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond which they can read independently.
- Discuss the sequence of events within a book and how items of information are related.
- Checking that the text makes sense to him/her as he/she reads and corrects inaccurate reading.
- Discuss favourite words and phrases.
- Predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far.

Writing:

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

- Write for different purposes to develop positive attitudes and stamina for writing.
- Write about real events to develop positive attitudes and stamina for writing.
- Consider what he/she is going to write before beginning by planning or saying out loud what we are going to write about.
- Make simple additions, revisions and corrections to his/her own writing by evaluating his/her writing with the teacher and other pupils.

We will be writing journey stories and we will focus on developing the following specific skills:

- Use dialogue and begin to use punctuation to show this.
- Use verbs and adverbs to show how a character is feeling.
- Use subordination and co-ordination.

We will be writing non-chronological reports, including the following skills:

- Using headings and sub-headings.
- Include facts in our writing.
- Use connectives to link our ideas.

In grammar, we will be covering the following areas: a variety of punctuation marks, bullet points, subheadings to organise information, commas in expanded noun phrases and in lists, subordination and co-ordination.

Our Maths learning this half term:

Multiplication and division

We would be able to:

- Recognise and make equal groups.
- Add equal groups.
- Use arrays to explore commutativity
- Use 2x tables to solve problems
- Use 5x tables to solve problems
- Use 10x tables to solve problems

Measure: Time

We would be able to:

- Compare and sequence intervals of time.
- Tell and write the time to five minutes, including quarter past/to the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times.
- Know the number of minutes in an hour and the number of hours in a day.

Fractions

We would be able to:

- Recognise, find, name and write fractions $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length, shape, set of objects or quantity.
- Write simple fractions e.g. $\frac{1}{2}$ of 6 = 3 and recognise the equivalence of two quarters and one half.

We will regularly practise our five times tables and explore it in greater depth, in order to develop speed of recall and confidence in its use across our Maths units.

Our Science and Computing learning this half term:

Science

Our unit of science this half term is focused on animals in their environments, making connections with our Geography learning. We will be covering the following knowledge areas:

- Identify how animals survive in the desert, rainforest and polar regions, and explore the conditions that woodlice prefer in their habitat.
- Explore the different stages in an animal's life cycle
- Explore the living things within our school's microclimate

We will be developing the following enquiry skills:

- Use simple features to compare, group and sort
- Use simple secondary sources
- Make simple observations using simple equipment.
- Notice patterns and relationships, with support
- Communicate findings in a range of ways and begin to use simple scientific language, with support

Computing

Our unit of computing this half term is focused on simulation, looking at how computers can be used to test real-world activities.

- Know what simulation means.
- Explain why computers are sometimes used to control things.
- Explain why computers are sometimes used to simulate things.
- Use a program to simulate a physical system.
- Predict how a computer program will behave.
- Argue what problems are best solved by either computer programs or humans.

We will also learn about how to use keywords to find information on the internet.

- I can use the Internet purposefully and safely to answer specific questions.

Our Humanities learning this half term:

Geography

Our focus this half term will be learning about countries in the wider world, including India, and exploring their similarities and differences with the United Kingdom.

We will be covering the following areas:

- Identify the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles.
- Use world maps, atlases and globes to identify continents, oceans and countries (*India and the United Kingdom*).
- Understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of a small area of the UK, and a small area of a contrasting non-European country (India)
- Consider reasons why there might be differences between different countries.
- Use compass directions (North, South, East and West) to identify and locate countries on a world map.
- Use compass direction to describe the location of different features on maps.

RE

Our RE focus this half term will be learning about Sikhism.

We will be exploring key concepts of Sikhism including the following:

- Explore what life is like in a Sikh community
- Understand that the 5 Ks are symbols of the Khalsa
- Explore the inside of a Gurdwara and understand its importance to the Sikh community
- Explore celebrations and make comparisons.

Our Creative Arts learning this half term:

Art:

We will explore primary and secondary colours and use these in expressive markings. Application would be explored through the use of different tools, including those found and made.

Additionally, we will explore different styles of Indian artwork. We would look at Madhubani style of Indian Folk Art, the traditions of Warli paintings and Gond Art.

We will develop the following skills:

- Paint mixing
- Paint application: layering primary and then secondary colours, and exploring expressive mark making.
- using colour and mark making in *response* to what is already there
- reflection and articulation.

Music: Musicianship

- Practising Musicianship skills in an ensemble (Samba or Taiko), using groups to play contrasting rhythm patterns.
- Use stick notation to represent repeated rhythms within the arrangement.
- Learn to play several parts to the piece of music.
- Introduce singing or chanting to the piece where appropriate.

Our PE and PSHE learning this half term:

PE:

Our PE units this half term are Gymnastics and Fundamentals.

OAA

- We will continue to learn the importance of teamwork though activities including basic fundamental skills.
- Learn how to read an adapted map and carry out simple tasks.

Fundamentals

- Refine the skills of running successfully, changing directions on the move.
- Develop throwing, catching, striking and dribbling skills and play small games.

PSHE:

Our unit this half term is 'Relationships and Sex Education'.

- Recognise babies, children and adults of different ages and put them into age order
- Understand that human babies grow inside their mothers
- Describe the main physical developments which take place in early childhood
- Describe some of the changes in responsibilities and expectations during early childhood
- Understand a baby's basic needs
- Understand how dependent a baby is on parents/carers to provide its basic needs.
- What makes all families special

Key Vocabulary

Key Vocabulary for this half term:

Maths

Multiplication and division: multiply, divide, dividend, divisor, inverse, factors, fact families, equal, number sentence, groups

Time: clock, digital, analogue, clockwise, anticlockwise, o'clock, half past, quarter past, ___ past, ___ to, quarter-turn, half-turn, full-turn, seconds, minutes, hours

Fractions: half, third, quarter, one half, two halves, unit fractions, non-unit fractions, numerator, denominator

English

Non-chronological report, headings, sub-headings, narrative, wishing tale, explanation text, facts, present tense, paragraphs, headings, subheadings, commas, bullet points.

Science

animals, habitats, desert, rainforest, polar regions, life cycle, microhabitat, woodland, hedgerow, pond, meadow, living, dead.

Geography

Atlas, map, compass, continent, country, city, hot places, cold places, equator, North Pole, South Pole, human features, physical features, weather, landmarks, climate, tradition, culture, India, River Ganges, New Delhi, Taj Mahal, Mumbai, United Kingdom, North, South, East, West.