



Year 1 and 2 Class Newsletter

Summer Term 2

2024 - 2025

Wow – it is the second half of the summer term already! We hope you had a lovely half term break and ready for a fantastic term ahead.

Coming up, we have got our trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park to look forward to on the 24th June, Sports Day on 7th July, as well as Transition Day on Tuesday 2nd July where the children get to visit their new teachers and classrooms.

As the weather gets warmer, please remember to send children in with a hat and apply long lasting sunscreen before coming to school. Sunglasses are not needed so we ask that these stay at home.

Below you will find information about what we are covering in the curriculum and how you can help to support your child with their learning. Please continue to read 3+ times a week with your child. We would love for every child to get a reading award this year.

Curriculum

English	Year 1	We were due to complete our last unit of poetry last half term however, with a rather busy end towards the end of Summer 1 we didn't manage to quite squeeze it in! Therefore, we will be starting with exploring the text <i>The Big Book of Blooms</i> and will be writing some simple free verse poems that include simple but effective adjectives to describe the mysterious flowers and plants that we examine within the text. Following this unit, we will explore writing a non-fiction-based text about Samuel Pepys. Within this writing unit we will focus on using the conjunction 'and' as well as starting to use question and exclamation marks within our independent writing. Our third and final, but a little longer, writing unit will be based on the traditional story of <i>Peter Rabbit</i> . Again, huge emphasis will be placed on using capital letters and full stops accurately but also independently. We will be making sure that the children have followed the sequence of the text accurately and remembered to make their writing interesting for the reader by using adjectives, nouns and even some simple verbs. This will ensure that we demonstrate a range of different writing skills before our transition into Year 2.
	Year 2	<p>We will be starting the term with our history topic of The Great Fire of London. We will be using this exciting topic to write a diary entries of a child who had to leave their home to escape the fire. We will be using time conjunctions, adverbs and our 5 senses to bring the diary writing to life.</p> <p>After that we will be writing a recount of our trip to the zoo. Again, we will be thinking about the use of time conjunctions to make our writing cohesive, and will be using description to make our writing as exciting as the trip was.</p> <p>We will end the term using a film stimulus called 'Bubbles'. The children will use their senses again to describe the seaside and we will be transported into a fantasy world by writing a narrative.</p>

Maths	Year 1	We will first start off our half term by looking at measure. Within the first week, we will be exploring how we can use standard sized objects to measure different items from around the room and then we will start to think about the transition to using a ruler and measuring accurately in centimetres. Following this, we will start our next topic based on unitising and coin recognition. Within this unit we will start to explore counting in groups of two, fives and tens and looking at how this can be an efficient method for quick counting when needed. Following this, we will start to look at the values of 2p, 5p and 10p coins, making links between our counting in these same units also. We will then use our knowledge of coins to solve simple problems and think about how we can calculate the total of varying amounts of these coins as well as identifying how and where coins are used in a real-life context. We will also be working out how many coins are needed to make the value of 10p.
	Year 2	In maths we will finish our work on measure by learning about capacity, volume and temperature. We will then go on to learning about position and direction. The children will secure their understanding of left and right, and we will introduce them to clockwise, anticlockwise and $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ turns. After that we will revise and secure our Year 2 fluency skills so that we are ready and confident for September in Year 3.
Phonics	Year 1	<p>The first two weeks back at school will be phonics, phonics, phonics! As our Phonics Screening Check will take place during the week beginning Monday 9th June. As a whole class we will have a huge emphasis on reading our real and alien words, focusing on accuracy when segmenting and blending as well as recognising the digraphs and trigraphs.</p> <p>Following the Phonics Screening Test, we will be back on track looking at our Little Wandle Scheme for Phonics thinking about some more complex and alternative sounds that we have yet to cover in Year 1. Again, like normal, this will be slow and steady, and the children will know the drill!</p>
Spelling	Year 2	<p>Week 1: -ment –ness suffix</p> <p>Week 2: -less suffix</p> <p>Week 3: dge/ge sound</p> <p>Week 4: g/j sound</p> <p>Week 5: kn/gn</p> <p>Week 6: wr</p> <p>Week 7: homophones</p>
History	All children	<p><i>Fire! Fire!</i> Is going to be our topic for this half term. We will be exploring who, what, where, when and why – all based around the topic of <i>The Great Fire of London</i>. The children will be thinking and learning about some of the key events of the Great Fire of London as well as thinking about how and why the fire spread around London. We will also explore Samuel Pepy's diaries and think about how these are a primary source that historians have looked at to find out more about the fire of London too. Within these conversations and discussions, we will think about how and if his diaries are reliable or trustworthy. As well as starting to question the reliability of some other sources that have helped us and historians understand more about the Great Fire of London.</p> <p>We will also explore how London has changed, making comparisons to the modern day and identifying similarities and differences.</p>
Science	All children	We will be continuing our journey thinking about <i>All Living Things and their Habitats</i> this half term, building on our prior knowledge to identify and name a

		<p>variety of plants and animals that live within different habitats. We will be thinking about how to identify and describe where animals obtain their food from and therefore ultimately thinking about simple food chain systems. Once we have established our understanding of a simple food chain, we will then make the links between how most of our food chains are connected in one way or another. Whilst we are looking at food chains, we will recap and review our understanding of key terminology such as carnivore, omnivore and herbivore to ensure that children can appropriately place them within a simple or more complex food chain independently.</p> <p>Joan Beauchamp Procter is going to be our scientist study this half term and we will look at how and why she became a significant scientist.</p>
Art	All children	<p><i>Rainbow Magic!</i> This art unit is full of fun and excitement. We will be recapping our knowledge about primary and secondary colours, thinking about how we create secondary colours using primary colours. We will be learning how to change the tone and shade of a colour by adding black or white paint and thinking about how many variations of one colour we can make within a set time. We will learn how to layer paint and develop different techniques to show our ideas and layer paint in an effective way that helps create dimension and different effects. We will also be experimenting with different brushes and other painting tools too, thinking about dabbing, watercolour washing and even how we can add in warmer and cooler colours to give our art more depth.</p>
Computing	All children	<p>Much like last half term, Coding remains our topic for Summer 2. However, this half term, we will be exploring the term <i>algorithm</i> and understand that these are also a set of instructions, and that we can create our own algorithms in a simple application on Purple Mash. We will learn how to use the collision detection event and also understand how and why we might add in a timer for some of our objects too. We will be making objects move, collide as well as continuing to recap the different skills we looked at during last half term (making objects move when clicked on, hide and even move across the screen in certain directions). Debugging will be a focus of ours this half term. We will learn how to <i>debug</i> a program and understand what this really means, as well as being able to spot how and why our program is not working as we had hoped and fix it!</p>
PSHE	All children	<p>We will continue working our way through our topic of <i>Health and Wellbeing</i> this half term by focusing on what makes us special and unique, thinking about our likes and dislikes as well as how to manage situations when things go wrong and we are finding something a little difficult. We will also be looking at how we can recognise our own feelings as well as recognising them in other children and people too, looking at how people can change and behave if they are feeling in a certain way. We will then move onto how and why rules keep us safe, linking our ideas into why some things like TV shows, films and even games have age restrictions to keep us safe. We will learn about why we should tell someone we trust if something online has made us feel unhappy, worried or even scared and identify who this person could be.</p>
RE	All children	<p>For RE again this half term we will be thinking about the key question <i>Why is it Important to Look After our World?</i> Last half term we looked into the more environmental side of things but this half term we will start to explore this question through the eyes of both Christians and Jewish people. We will think about the religious stories and how they are similar and different as well as thinking about how we should, as people, live together and look after one another as well as the animals on our planet too.</p>

As always, you know where we are if you need us. It is never any trouble having a quick catch up at the door at the start or the end of the day!

Mrs Thurlow and Mrs Clarke

Year 1 and 2 Class Teachers