



Curriculum Newsletter – Year 2

Spring 1

**Value of the term:
Respect**

Dear Families,
We are looking forward to the new term. Here is an overview of the learning we will be covering. We hope you will be able to support your child's learning at home by reading with them and talking about the work they are doing in class.

Maths

In our Maths lessons, we will be learning about both 2d and 3d shapes. We will count sides and vertices on 2d shapes and faces, edges and vertices on 3d shapes.

We will follow patterns made with shapes and sort them based on their properties. We will be recognising and ordering money, both coins and notes. We will add and subtract using money and begin to find out about giving change.



English

Reading

In reading, we will be focussing on a wide selection of genres including fiction, non-fiction as well as poetry. We will be developing our fluency when reading as well as building up our phonics knowledge and using our decoding strategies to help us read tricky or unknown words. We will be reading for pleasure and will continue to build a love for reading!

Writing

In our writing, we will be using three texts to inspire us- The Tiny Seed, The Extraordinary Gardner and The Ice Witch. We will be exploring a wider range of punctuation- question marks, exclamation marks, commas in a list and apostrophes for possession and contraction. We will be thinking carefully about our choices of vocabulary to make sure that it is interesting, specific and in the correct tense. We will be editing our own writing, looking for marvellous mistakes we have made in our spelling, punctuation and grammar and using our purple pens to correct them. We will, as always, be ensuring that our letter formation is accurate and our capital letters and lowercase letters are of the correct size, and beginning to join our handwriting.

Science

In Science, we will be learning about growing things. We will learn about the differences between seeds and bulbs. We will investigate what a seed needs to germinate using a comparative test. Does the seed with or without water germinate? Does the seed with or without light germinate? We will be making our own seed diaries and observing how a seed changes over time. We will also investigate which seeds grow into the tallest plants, recording our data in a bar chart.



PSHE

In PSHE this term as part of our gender and relationship education, we will be exploring the question – are we all the same? Children will begin to look at what makes us all different and how we should respect these differences. We will then look at the biological differences between male and females, looking first at animals before moving on to humans. We will learn the correct names for the parts of the body, including their private parts.





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PE

In PE we will be learning about both Dance and Gymnastics. In Dance we will be thinking carefully about how we can count the beats of the music to help us to stay in time. We will remember, repeat and link our actions into a sequence, and we will explore dancing at different levels. In Gymnastics, we will explore the different shapes we can make with our bodies. We will explore how we can link these shapes together to make a performance. We will also learn about travelling actions and balances using the apparatus.

Geography

In Geography we will learn about the 5 oceans of the world. We will investigate the weather in the North and South Pole and compare it with the weather along the Equator to learn about the differences between hot and cold weather. We will learn about the way of life of The Inuit people: what they eat, where they live, their clothing and their hobbies. We will compare their way of life to our own.

Art

This term we will be exploring sculpture, and will be specifically using clay to create our very own dragon's eyes. We will learn about the work of artist Nico Marlet making careful observational drawings which build on our tonal work from term 1 and also develop our skills in capturing texture within our drawings. We will learn how to score, slip and blend to join clay and how to imprint using various materials to create texture on our dragon's eye. We will learn about selecting the right brushes for painting and glazes before evaluating our dragon's eyes and suggesting what we might improve on next time.



Music

In Music we will listen to a piece of music called *Orawa* (pronounced 'Arva') which describes a huge river. We will imagine the journey of the river through Europe and make decisions about the scenery and events it passes on its way. Borrowing ideas from the composer, we will invent new music using vocal chants and body percussion. We will then listen to and analyze four great pieces of music, each one describing a different vehicle. Then we will discover how composers use volume, speed, and rhythm in their music. Finally, we will create our own transport-inspired pieces.

World Views

In World Views this term we will be learning about Christianity. We will be looking at a Christian case study about the life of Thomas Clarkson, and how his Christian beliefs inspired his campaign to end slavery. We will learn about the Christian story of the Good Samaritan and investigate how this influences the actions of Christians. We will learn about the work of the charity- The Samaritans. We will learn about how the local church community is helping those in need. At the end of the unit we will present our findings to answer the question 'How do Christians try to help people in need?'.

