



Welcome to the Year 2 class newsletter—full of key information for the term ahead. This term, our context for learning is:

What are the similarities and differences between India and the UK?

Year 2 Team: Class teachers— Ms Dolan and Mrs Angyalova

Class TAs - Mrs Hussain and Ms Mpenge

English

Our first English unit this half term has been linked to No Dinner, a traditional Indian tale. The children will be writing their own character description. They will be thinking about including specific features such as: how the character moves, speaks and acts as well as using adjectives to describe their appearance. Later in the term we will be writing a narrative of a mythical creature and looking at poems. We will continue our focus on grammar and spelling. These areas of learning are taught discretely during children's regular phonic and spelling sessions. For reading, we have moved onto whole class reading. This is an opportunity to delve deeply into texts and discuss them as a class whilst answering questions on them. The children then learn to apply these skills within their English lesson.

Maths

We will continue to develop the children's maths skills through a variety of practical, real-life activities. As the term progresses, the children will build on their knowledge of place value through partitioning and finding missing number problems. During the term we will also be looking at using arrays to solve multiplication questions. We will look at division-based problems, using grouping and sharing to help us before moving onto fractions. The children will be continuing to learn their 10, 5 and 2 times tables in daily basic skills lessons.

Geography

We will be exploring the country of India, looking at the village, cities, animals, weather and culture. We will use the knowledge and skills we learn throughout the topic to help us answer the question 'What are the similarities between India and the United Kingdom?' We will learn the difference between human and physical features. Alongside this, the children will develop their mapping skills by looking at map keys, aerial maps and a local map.

Science

In Spring 1, we will be learning about: Animals Including Humans. The children will find out and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air). They will also be able to describe the importance of exercise for humans, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene. Working scientifically we will be performing simple tests, understanding that questions can be answered in different ways, making observations and asking simple questions from those observations.

After half term, we will be learning about Living Things and their Habitats. The children will explore the differences between things that are living, things that are dead and things that have never been alive. We are excited about exploring the different habitats in our school site, especially the pond area!



Music

Year 2 will be having weekly sessions with Mr Prescott this term. We will be learning several songs on the glockenspiel. Our focus this term is jazz music and the children will be learning about different styles of jazz, various jazz musicians and learning how to improvise using the glockenspiel.

PE

This term the children will be in the Gym focusing on the topic 'High and Low.' They will be learning to travel and balance confidently, showing parts of the body high and low before moving into linking movements into sequences. For outdoor PE, led by the coach, the children will be learning ball skills focused around aiming, throwing and catching.

Art

This term we will be focusing on 3D art and collage. The children will be exploring different artists' work as inspiration for their own. We will link this to our topic learning. We will be looking at work created by Shirley Bhathagel and comparing her clay work with more traditional Indian pots. We will be creating our own clay pots in the style of Shirley Bhathagel, using joining techniques to attach handles to our pots.

Computing

During the spring term the children will be using a computer to make music. Children will compare creating music digitally and non-digitally. After half term, children will understand how data can be collected and explore how they can present data using a computer.

RE

This term we will learn more about Hindu beliefs with a focus on worship at home, Gods and places of worship. After half term we are learning about Christianity with a focus on symbols at Easter.

PSHE

Our topic this term is identity, society and equality. We will be discussing what makes us and others special and understand our roles and responsibilities at home and at school.

Reminders

Jewellery: The only jewellery we allow are watches and stud earrings. If possible your child should not wear earrings on PE days.

Uniform: Please ensure all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name and encourage them to look after their belongings. If you are unsure about school uniform, please look on the school website.

We endeavour to be a nut free school. Please be aware of this when you prepare your child's lunch box. This includes peanut butter, Nutella, pesto, hummus and products with sesame seeds.

Birthdays: If you would like to make a gift of a book for the class to celebrate your child's birthday, that would be much appreciated.

Water bottles: Please ensure your child brings in a named water bottle, filled with water, each day.

PE : Indoor PE on Monday, Please remember your child needs a round neck white short sleeved t-shirt and navy shorts (above the knee).

Outdoor PE for both classes is on Friday, for which your child will need a t-shirt, navy tracksuit trousers and trainers.

Your child should come in wearing their PE kit on their PE days.

Home Learning

Your child will have learning to do at home each week. This will include:

Mathletics: This will be set each week on Friday.

Big Cat books online and books from the class library: We expect children to read 4-5 times a week and record this in their journal (to be signed by their parent/ Carer)

Phonics or spellings on Google Classroom:

The class teacher will add these to the class stream on your Classroom.

The children have some additional challenges provided in the 'Take away tasks' Please bring these in so we can celebrate your child's work at home.

Important dates



Parents' morning

Tuesday 7th February

Parents' evening

Thursday 9th February

Half-term

Monday 13th – Friday 17th February

Last day of term

Friday 31st March

Trip to a Hindu

Temple—date TBC