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Committed to the care and education of your child within a Christian setting

Year 2 Curriculum Letter - Terms 3 and 4

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children are continuing to work really hard and once again we will be very busy during Terms 3 and 4. Below is an outline of our curriculum for the spring terms, along with news about other things that the children will be looking forward to in the coming months.

Topic



Our Year 2 Geography topic in Terms 3 and 4 is Australia and the UK. Map work will form an important part of the topic initially and we will go on to find out about differences in both the physical and human geography of Australia in comparison with the UK. With our Australia topic we will be looking at and responding to Aboriginal paintings.

English

In English during Terms 3 and 4 we will continue with phonics lessons within our own classes. This is proving to be very successful in supporting the children's reading and spelling skills. We will be developing the children's knowledge and experience of extended writing in different contexts; to this end, we will use stories such as 'The Tear Thief' and the short film 'Dangle'. We will also be visiting the Story Museum in Oxford to further develop our writing skills.



Maths

In Maths we will continue to develop the children's mental maths skills; our Key Instant Recall of Facts foci for Terms 3 and 4 are multiplication and division facts for the 2 and 10 x tables, as well as doubles and halves of numbers to 20. Over the course of the terms we will cover all four operations and are keen to make sure that all the children are really confident in using a number line and other resources to help them with calculations. There is an emphasis on helping the children to become skilful at applying their existing knowledge to help them to work out things that they don't know or to new situations. In this way the children will continue to become great problem solvers. We will also be investigating the similarities and differences between 2D and 3D shape and revising and developing our understanding of clocks and telling the time.



Science

Our science topic for this term continues to be 'Materials', which includes investigative work. We will be identifying and comparing the suitability of every day materials for particular uses. We will be investigating how different materials can be made to change their shape. In Term 4 we will be moving on to 'Plants'. We will be observing and describing how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants, and what plants need to grow and stay healthy.



Computing

In Computing, Year 2 will be developing their programming skills by controlling a small robot called a Beebot, as well as using online resources such as 'LightBot'. By creating a sequence of instructions they will learn to direct and guide the robot, as well as follow routes and create patterns. Through this unit the children will also develop their mathematical skills of position and direction, as well as co-ordinates.

PE

During the winter months we continue to do outside PE, even when the weather is cold. It is therefore essential that your child has the correct outdoor PE kit in school, including a tracksuit, to make sure they are warm enough. Suitable outdoor trainers are the most important item of all, so we would be really grateful if you could check that your child has all of the appropriate items in school. Please ensure all items of school clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Both 2LR and 2AUW will do indoor PE on Mondays. In the hall we will be doing gymnastics, thinking about different ways to move and ways to use equipment, both individually and in groups. For outdoor PE, we are focussing on developing a variety of different skills for playing team games, such as passing, receiving and moving.

RE

During Term 3 we will be hearing about some of the stories that Jesus told, thinking about the meaning behind them and what we can learn from them. The parables that we look at include The Lost Sheep, The Prodigal Son and The Wise and Foolish Man. In Term 4 we will think about religious celebrations and festivals, before moving on to look at the story of Easter and why it is important to Christians.



Music

In Music the children will be working alongside other schools in our partnership to learn and perform a collection of songs for their concert at Wood Green School. More details will follow about this concert. In class they will explore how sounds can be changed, combined and organised to create long and short compositions.

Homework

We will continue to send out our weekly newsletters every Friday. These include a few questions to ask about the learning from the current week, as well as details of Maths and spellings due for the following week. THANK YOU for your continued support with reading at home. This really does make a HUGE difference and helps the children to develop their understanding and fluency. We encourage the children to aim for 5 minutes of reading, 5 minutes of spelling and 5 minutes of Maths each day.

If you have any further questions about what we are learning in Year 2, or if you have any other queries or concerns, then please get in touch to arrange a meeting or catch us at the end of the school day. Thank you for your continued support.

From the Year 2 Team.

English

Phonics:

- Consolidate previously learned phonemes (sounds) as well as learning more digraphs (sounds made of two letters together, e.g. /ar/ in 'start') and trigraphs (sounds made of three letters together, e.g. /ure/ in 'pure').
- Learn alternative spellings for particular sounds.
- Read and spell tricky words that we can't sound out (e.g. 'come' and 'was').

Extended Writing:

Recounts:

Settings: Describing entering a new world, taking inspiration from 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'.

Narrative:

Stories:

- The short film 'Dangle'
- The Tear Thief
- The Fox and the Crow
- The Easter Story

We will retell, sequence and write sections of these stories. We will also write a setting description as if we had entered Narnia for the first time, as well as writing a new 'chapter' for the story of The Tear Thief.

Grammar

We will be using these texts to explore key aspects of grammar, particularly word classes including nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs.

Maths

Addition and Subtraction:

We will continue to recognise the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and work out missing number problems (e.g. $\Delta - 14 = 28$).

We will use estimation to check that our answers to a calculation are reasonable (e.g. knowing that $48 + 35$ will be less than 100).

We will revise our understanding of Place Value by partitioning two-digit numbers into different combinations of tens and ones (e.g. 23 is the same as 2 tens and 3 ones, which is the same as 1 ten and 13 ones), as well as adding and subtracting 2 two-digit numbers.

We will learn to use different coins to make the same amount (e.g. use coins to make 50p in different ways; work out how many £2 coins are needed to exchange for a £20 note).

Multiplication and Division:

We will revise our multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables and use these to solve simple problems.

Fractions:

We will learn to work out fractions of shapes and amounts.

Time:

We will learn to read the time on the clock to the nearest 15 minutes.

Shape:

We will be investigating the similarities and differences between 2D and 3D shapes.

Throughout:

Key Instant Recall of Facts (KIRFs):

Term 3:

- Multiplication and division facts for the 10 x tables.

Term 4:

- Doubles and halves of numbers to 20.
- Multiplication and division facts for the 2 x tables.

Table Cards and KIRF Cards:

Each week we will be practising our times tables - 2s, 5s and 10s to begin with, as well as testing the children on their KIRFs with our KIRF card quizzes.

See Maths policy for full details.

<p><u>Science</u> We will continue with 'Materials', which includes investigative work. We will be identifying and comparing the suitability of every day materials for particular uses. We will be investigating how different materials can be made to change their shape. In Term 4 we will be moving on to 'Plants'. We will be observing and describing how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants, and what plants need to grow and stay healthy.</p>	<p><u>R.E.</u> Parables - Stories Jesus told: The Lost Sheep The Prodigal Son The Wise and Foolish Man Religious Celebrations and Festivals: The story of Easter and why it is important to Christians.</p>
<p><u>Geography</u> Continents, Oceans, The UK and Australia: In Year 2 we will learn to name and identify the world's continents and oceans. We will also be learning about the UK and its capital cities and comparing our country's landscape with that of Australia.</p>	
<p><u>P.S.H.E</u> We will continue to follow the Family Links KS1 programme revising topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrating being 'me' and differences between people • Accepting praise and criticism • Personal power to do the right thing • Making good choices and accepting consequences • Managing anger <p>We will also talk about staying safe online and when using the computer.</p>	<p><u>Computing</u> Within ICT we will be focusing on the following skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to investigate programming, using Beebots and 'Lightbot'. <hr/> <p><u>P.E.</u> Indoor: Gymnastics - thinking about different ways to move and ways to use equipment, both individually and in groups. Outdoor: Developing a variety of different skills for playing team games, such as passing, receiving and moving.</p>
<p><u>Art</u> We will be studying aboriginal dot paintings and creating some individual and collaborative artwork inspired by this.</p> <p><u>D&T</u> We will look at the different types of materials and methods of joining materials together.</p>	<p><u>Music</u> In Music the children will be working alongside other schools in our partnership to learn and perform a collection of songs for their concert at Wood Green School. In class they will explore how sounds can be changed, combined and organised to create long and short compositions.</p>