



Year 2 Curriculum Overview

Autumn Term 2025

Now and Then!



This leaflet aims to give you information on the curriculum we will be covering during the Autumn term.

English

As readers, the children will continue to use and apply phonics to help read fluently and read for meaning. In guided reading lessons, they will be exposed to a wide range of different genres, where we capitalise on topics and make links where possible. They will learn the key skills of prediction and making links between different texts. In addition to guided reading lessons, they will read for pleasure, where they will enjoy a vast range of books from our school library. We also strongly believe that exposing children to a range of authors will enhance their love of reading and will also encourage them to participate in discussion, so we have a dedicated time for children to enjoy being read to.

As writers, they will understand the importance of description in writing. They will have many opportunities across the curriculum to write. In English they will write their own version of the traditional tale, Hansel and Gretel and explore adjectives through The Rainbow Fish. They will identify poetic features, including onomatopoeia and rhyme in the poem 'Stepping Out'.

Spellings will continue to be taught through daily phonics lessons. The children will also continue to practise their handwriting. There will be an emphasis on ensuring the children write with clear ascenders and descenders as well writing on the line. When they have mastered these skills, they will be introduced to cursive writing.

Maths

Across the school, maths is structured using the NCETM programme which was written in line with the DfE's Ready to Progress criteria (2020). We continue to use the concrete, pictorial and abstract approach to ensure children have a good understanding of concepts before moving onto more abstract representations. In addition, we use bar and part-whole modelling throughout the school, to support the children's conceptual understanding of mathematical problems.

As mathematicians, they will be developing fluency during mental maths sessions. This follows the Number Sense programme which is progressive from EYFS and Year 1 through to term 1 of year 3. They will begin by recapping the key concepts from Year 1 then moving on to mental strategies to support number bond recall and a range of representation of number including the ten frame and number lines. during the second half of the term. They will also begin to learn their 10 times table, moving onto 5s and 2s, along with the corresponding division facts.

During maths lessons, they will learn new concepts through varied fluency practice and moving on to using and applying their knowledge and skills to problem solve and reason. They will start the term with place value: revising numbers to 100, calculating within 20 and moving on to addition and subtraction of two-digit numbers.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World - Science

During the term, as scientists, they will be learning about animals, including humans. Children will be exploring how humans grow and change, the basic needs of humans to survive and how to keep fit, healthy and clean.

Children will be able to record findings from their observations through using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts and tables.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World - History

As historians, they will be learning about changes in our local area with our focus being Vivary Park. They will be comparing features and uses of the park 100 years ago to today discussing what is the same and what it different. They will use photographs and written sources to find out more about the past. We will also begin our topic on significant people through the study of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World – Geography

As geographers, the children will be carrying out a fieldwork study on our local park – Vivary Park. They will complete a route from the school to the park and create this using messy maps. They will then visit the park to observe physical and human features, survey the facilities and interview members of the public to find out how the park is used.

Creative Development

The children will be learning about the artist, Claude Monet. They will be focussing on learning how to use different size and shaped paint brushes to make marks of different thicknesses, use wax crayons to create wax resist paintings and learn how to use collage materials to create detail.

As musicians, the children will develop their understanding of pulse and rhythm. They will begin with songs and activities to get performing together rhythmically. The children will perform actions and movements to a steady pulse and play simple musical passing games. They will learn songs such as ‘March To The Beat’ to explore the difference between pulse and rhythm, and investigate different ways to play rhythms, varying instrumental timbre and dynamics.

Working as a class and in small groups, the children will learn to play a simple accompaniment to a song or poem, selecting suitable sounds and timbre. They will learn to create simple four-beat rhythms and represent these using graphic notations such as Beat Monsters!

The children will also learn songs for Harvest and Christmas.

Computing

As computer experts, they will continue to learn about privacy and security. Children will be able to give reasons why they should only share information with people they choose and can trust. They will understand and give reasons why passwords are important. We will also be looking at programming with the children and they will be learning about algorithms and decomposition. In addition, the children will be developing their keyboard skills.

Physical Development

This term in Year 2 we will be looking at multi-skills. This will be focusing on Agility, Balance and Coordination, recapping on the various skills they have learnt in previous years and ensure these skills are now beginning to develop. We will be using a variety of equipment and looking at a number of different games that children will be playing individually, in pairs and in small teams. The children will also be working on cooperation, team working and confidence building in PE. The children will also be focusing on racket sports in the second half of the term to build on the skills from year 1.

RE & PSHE

In the Autumn Term we look at: "What do Jewish people believe about the Torah?" The children will be encouraged to participate in discussions, and they will be encouraged to ask questions. The children will participate in the Infant Nativity and learn about the Christmas story.

In PSHE, we will be making links to our school value of resilience. The children will be creating a class charter. We will be discussing the gifts and talents of ourselves and others, whilst exploring feelings, opinions and working cooperatively. The children will also

think about representation and having a say by voting and debating in our school council.

French

Our key focus in French is on speaking and listening to explore new language structures and sounds. We will recap our Year 1 learning with songs and games, find out about more greetings, introductions and numbers (1-30) in French as well as what it is like to go back to school in France. Later in the term we will find out about Halloween, the Jour du Souvenir (Remembrance Day), in France as well as exploring the traditions of St. Nicolas and Noël.

Homework

Each week the children will have a Maths or English homework, which needs to be returned to school every Friday. They will also have weekly spellings to practise for a test every Monday. In addition, there will be a topic homework menu which will consist of a bank of six activities. These activities will vary from Design and Technology, Art, Maths, Science, English or Computing. An internet safety and school values task will also be included. Children should complete at least two tasks. The purpose of this is to immerse the children within the topic and to give them a varied homework diet to showcase different talents. We also ask that the children read every night for five minutes. Please sign your child's reading diary when you have heard your child read.