

Year 2 Curriculum Overview

Spring Term

Let's Invent!

This document aims to give you information on the curriculum the children will be covering during the Spring term.

English

As readers, they 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 continue to focus on the key skills of: prediction, inference 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 the 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.

Class readers this term are:

- ✓ Classic: The Sheep-Pig by Dick King Smith
- ✓ Modern fiction: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl
- ✓ Fairytale: Pinocchio
- ✓ Classic poetry: From a railway carriage by Robert Louis Stevenson
- ✓ Non-fiction/reference book: Isambard Kingdom Brunel, SS Great Britain, The Great Western Railway, Materials & Christianity

As writers this term, they will explore a variety of exciting texts and develop their writing skills through creative and purposeful activities.

We begin with the narrative Pinocchio, a classic wishing tale. The focus will be on writing dialogue, helping children bring characters to life. They'll innovate the story through substitution and then invent something completely new!

Next, they will write a recount inspired by the life of Isambard Brunel, before inventing their own recount about a trip to Bristol. They will also create a non-chronological report about The Great Western Railway, then innovate by writing about Brunel himself and invent a new report on the SS Great Britain.

Finally, they will enjoy exploring classic poetry with 'From a Railway Carriage' by Robert Louis Stevenson, using rhythm and imagery to inspire their own performances and responses.

Spellings will continue to be taught through daily phonic lessons. They will also continue to practise their handwriting. There will be an emphasis on teaching the children the correct formation of cursive letters to begin joining their writing.

Maths

As mathematicians, they will be continuing to develop their fluency skills during mental maths sessions, focussing on counting forwards and backwards in different sized steps and recalling multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5, 10 and 4 times tables. They will also continue to consolidate their knowledge of the number bonds to 20 and 100.

During maths lessons this term, they will deepen their understanding of number and calculation through practical and engaging activities.

They will begin by grouping objects in different ways to explore the concept of multiplication, then practise counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s, linking these patterns to times tables.

They will also be introduced to division structures, learning how sharing and grouping relate to multiplication. Later in the term, they will explore fractions, understanding halves, quarters and equal parts.

Finally, they will learn about money, recognising coins and notes and solving problems involving simple calculations

Knowledge and Understanding of the World - History

As historians, they will be learning about the life of Isambard Kingdom Brunel; who he was and what he did. They will create a timeline of his life and visit his ship 'SS Great Britain' in Bristol. They will write a recount of the trip and create a non-chronological report all about the ship.

RE & PSHE

The focus for Spring term is: "What do Christians believe about forgiveness? with a focus on the Easter story. They will be encouraged to participate in discussions and ask questions.

In PSHE lessons, they will be focussing on our school values - Respect and Forgiveness. They will also cover the following topics: Why does Money Matter?, Being Safe and Online Safety and Awareness.

During Safety Week, they will learn how to stay safe in a variety of situations, both in the real world and online. Under the umbrellas of 'Being Safe' and 'Online Safety and Awareness', they will explore important themes to help them make sensible choices and manage risks.

Topics include:

- ✓ Water Safety: How do we call for help in an emergency near water?
- ✓ Fire Safety: How can we keep ourselves safe from fire at home and know what to do during an emergency? How can we tell what is safe or unsafe at home and school?
- ✓ Stranger Danger
- ✓ Managing Risks and Hazards: To explain how to reduce risks in everyday situations
- ✓ Safe Relationships – understanding the importance of boundaries and safe touch.

They will also take part in online safety activities, focusing on how to build positive online relationships, manage information responsibly, building a positive online reputation and how to protect their self-image and identity.

Creative Development

In music this term, they will explore Music Technology and how music can express emotions and spark imagination. They will experiment with pitch to create their own musical piece, linking it to a physical object — an animal. Using Chrome Music Lab, they will design and refine rhythm and melody patterns inspired by their chosen animal's movements. They will review and improve their compositions, explaining the changes they made.

In Patterns with Pitch, they will discover a range of instruments, from the octobass to the piccolo, and learn to describe their pitch and timbre. Through listening games and songs, they will develop pitch-matching skills, recognising when notes rise, fall, or stay the same. They will use their voices creatively, responding to graphic notations like vocal story maps, and play simple melodies on tuned percussion.

They will also be introduced to the pentatonic scale through songs such as Just Five Notes.

During DT they will be creating their own railway carriage to run on Brunel's GWR! They will learn how to measure and cut and join wood and look at how axles work and investigate different ways of creating an axle on our vehicles.

French

The key focus in French is on speaking and listening to explore new language structures and sounds. Our French learning is becoming more complex as we build on our Reception, Year 1 and Autumn Term learning to master new songs and games. They will apply all our learning as we find out about France and what it is like to join in with their celebrations of Épiphanie - La Fête des Rois, Mardi Gras and Easter. They will concentrate on the French vowel sounds we learnt in Year 1.

Physical Development (PE)

This term they will be looking at Gymnastics and Dance. In gymnastics they will be focusing on basic shapes, rolls, balances and jumps. They will learn the correct techniques and how to perform these safely. They will also be looking to follow mini routines that will include some low equipment. They will have the opportunity to put the skills they have learnt into pairs and small group routines. In dance they will be following a story based on their Spring Term topic. The story will allow them to follow a set of movements to form a routine. There will also be the opportunity for the children to develop their own dance whilst following a piece of music and selecting the movements they feel would work, this will be done in pairs and small groups.

Homework

Each week they will have a Maths or English homework, which needs to be returned to school every Monday. They will also have weekly spellings to practise for a test every Wednesday. Every fourth week there will be a re-test of the previous three week's spellings. In addition, there will be a topic homework menu which will consist of a bank of activities.