

# Year 2



# CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back!

Summer Term

We hope you have had a wonderful Easter break. We can't quite believe we are now in the final term! As always, we have lots of exciting learning lined up for the first half of the summer term that we would like to share with you. Please don't forget we post weekly website updates our year group page too.

English	Reading	Maths
		
<p>We are starting the half term in English by exploring the text "The Green Ship" by Quentin Blake. Where they will create their narrative using a range of vocabulary. In the second half of this term, the children will explore the 'Barnabus Project' by Terry Fan, focusing on using exclamatory sentences and expanded noun phrases and prepositions to describe events.</p>	<p>In reading, we will be supported in small groups to read a book carefully matched to our phonics level. We will read the book 3 times, first focusing on decoding the words, then reading with fluency and then answering questions to show we have understood what the text was all about. Each week, the book we read will appear on Collins Hub so that we can practise at home too.</p>	<p>In maths, we will start by exploring fractions. As part of this, the children will identify halves, quarters, and thirds of shapes and amounts. They will also be learning about unit and non-unit fractions. After this, we will be moving on to learn about time. As part of this, the children will learn to tell the time to the nearest half and quarter-hour and the nearest 5 minutes.</p>
Science	History	Geography
		
<p>Our science topic is 'Animal Survival'. In this unit of work, we will learn about animal growth by exploring some familiar animals' life cycles. The children will build on their previous learning in Year 1 about the survival of humans by identifying the basic needs of animals for survival, including food, water, air and shelter.</p>	<p>In history, our topic is 'Magnificent Monarchs'. We will learn about the English and British monarchy from AD 871 to the present day. Using timelines, information about royal palaces, portraits and other historical sources, the children will build up an understanding of the monarchs and then research six of the most significant sovereigns, including Queen Victoria, Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth II.</p>	<p>Our geography unit is called 'Let's Explore the World'. This unit of work teaches children about atlases, maps and cardinal compass points. They learn about the characteristics of the four countries of the United Kingdom and find out why there are hot, temperate and cold places around the world. They will also compare England to Somalia. The children will carry out fieldwork, collecting primary data around the school site to answer geographical questions.</p>

Music	Art	DT
		
<p>In music, we will be learning about the structure of music written for monarchs around the world and throughout time. The children will also be introduced to instruments that commonly play fanfares and compose their own rhythms for royalty.</p>	<p>Our art topic is called 'Still Life'. This project links to our previous history unit, 'Moves &amp; Shakers'. The children will learn about the work of significant still-life artists and still-life techniques. They explore a wide variety of still lifes and learn about the use of colour and composition. At the end of the unit, the children create their own still-life arrangements and artwork.</p>	<p>Our DT unit is called 'Cut, Stitch and Join' and links to our 'Magnificent Monarchs' history topic. The children learn about fabric home products and the significant British brand Cath Kidston in this unit. They will also learn about sewing patterns, using a running stitch, and embellishments before making their own sewn bag tag.</p>
Computing	R.E	PSHE
		
<p>In the first half of the summer term, the children will be learning about stop motion. As part of this unit on creating media, the children will create a storyboard and a simple animation using tablet devices. Should the children wish to practise or play further, you can download the Stop Motion Studio app for free from the App Store.</p>	<p>In R.E., this half term, we will learn about special foods. The children will explore how food can be special within different religions, sharing their own traditions, special meals and food that is special to them. They will look at what food is special to Christians, explore The Last Supper and look at Prashad for Hindus.</p>	<p>Our first PSHE topic is called 'Relationships'. The unit of work will cover what friends are and how to resolve disagreements. It will also teach the children about including others and dealing with situations where they feel hurt and upset. We will also continue to learn about our feelings, inspired by the book 'The Colour Monster'.</p>

# P.E AND OUTDOOR LEARNING

Every week, the children have two P.E sessions with our sports coaches; Coach Jordan, Coach James and Coach Grace. During the summer term, one of these sessions is held in our **outdoor learning area** and the children are taught essential skills such as teamwork, resilience and strategic thinking.

During this half term in P.E., the children will focus on athletics! They will develop skills of throwing, running and jumping using equipment such as foam javelins, shotputs and relay batons, just to name a few. We will also start to look at some of the sports day activities to prepare the children as best as we can to give them all the best chance of winning!

P.E kit:

- ✓ White t-shirt
- ✓ Black or navy jogging bottoms (winter)
- ✓ Black or navy shorts (summer)
- ✓ Plain dark-coloured hoodie or sweatshirt
- ✓ Plimsolls (for indoor P.E)
- ✓ Trainers
- ✓ Hair tied back
- ✓ Earrings out
- ✓ Waterproof trousers (for outdoor learning)
- ✓ Wellies

# Coming up...



# Home Learning



## VE Day

Thursday 8th May



### Come and join us...

We're inviting parents into classrooms from 1:15 pm on Thursday 8th of May to celebrate Victory in Europe Day (VE day).

After spending some time in the classroom, we will head outside for games and a cake picnic to commemorate this momentous day in British history.

### Reading

All children are expected to read at least 5 times a week and record this in their reading diary. Reading diaries are monitored every Monday and should be brought into school. Reading books based on the children's abilities are allocated every Wednesday on Collins Hub. The children will also have a reading-for-pleasure book, which can be changed on Tuesdays.

### Times Tables

We would like all children to access Times Tables Rockstars each week. It is recommended that the children play 21 minutes a week (3 minutes a day) to help them make progress in learning their multiplication facts. By the end of the year, we aim for all children to know, at least, the facts in the 10, 2 and 5 times tables. When playing, we ask that the children play on the 'garage' game. Usernames and passwords can be found in the children's reading diaries.

# Contact us



# How can you help?



If there is anything you wish to discuss with us regarding the information in this newsletter, or if you have any further queries or concerns regarding your child's experience at school, please do not hesitate to get in touch:

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### **History:**

It would be useful to share or explore any information about monarchs. This might include teaching your child about the current royal family and how they are related, including the line of succession. In our unit of work, we will explore Alfred the Great, William the Conqueror, Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria, and Queen Elizabeth II.

### **Maths:**

In preparation for our upcoming unit of work on 'Time'. It would help if you could begin to encourage the children to tell the time as much as possible to the hour, the nearest half and quarter hour, and the nearest 5 minutes, as these are all concepts the children find tricky.

### **Geography:**

To help the children understand the differences between countries, you could begin to explore an atlas or globe, exploring where countries are in the world compared to the United Kingdom.

The children's commitment to their work and school life made for some very proud teachers last term, and we look forward to seeing how the children progress over the summer. We thank you for your support in promoting these positive attitudes at home. Our doors are always open if you have any queries or concerns.

The Year 2 Team