

Year 2

AUTUMN TERM 1

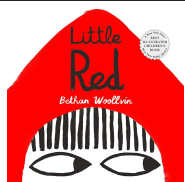
CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back!

Hello! A warm welcome to Year 2 and the first part of the Autumn Term. We hope you have had a wonderful summer holiday and are as excited as we are to get back to school. Here's a snapshot of what we will be up to this half term...



English



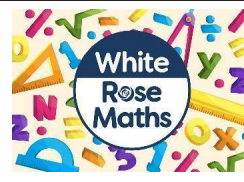
In our English units, the children will focus on letter and sentence formation to begin the term, then move on to retelling the story 'Little Red' by Bethan Woolfan. In doing this, the children will learn to retell the story, focusing on using 'and', 'but', and 'so' to join their ideas. After this, to celebrate 'Black History Month', the children will write a biography of Mary Seacole.

Reading



In reading, we will be supported in small groups to read a book carefully matched to our phonics level. We will read the book three times, first focusing on decoding the words, then reading fluently, and then answering questions to demonstrate our understanding of the text. Each week, the book we read will appear on Collins Hub, so we can practise at home too.

Maths



In maths this half-term, we will begin the year exploring place value up to 100. As part of our place value work, the children will learn to compare the value of numbers and practise counting in jumps of 2, 5, and 10. Next, we will apply our understanding of place value to addition and subtraction problems involving 2 2-digit numbers that cross the 10s boundary.

Science



In our 'Healthy Humans' unit of work, the children will learn about the basic human needs for survival, including the importance of exercise, nutrition, and good hygiene. The children will also learn how human offspring grow and change over time into adulthood.

Geography



This half-term, the children will learn what an atlas is and how it helps us find places around the world. They will use the four cardinal compass points to follow and give directions and will learn how map keys use symbols to show important features. They will then apply these skills to maps of our school grounds. Through simple fieldwork, the children will observe, record and discuss how areas around school are used. Finally, they will use online mapping tools to explore the local area.

Art



In our art unit 'Colour Quest', the children explore colour theory by studying the colour wheel, experimenting with colour mixing and learning about primary and secondary colours, before applying their understanding creatively in artwork.

Music	Computing	R.E
		
The children will explore pitch this term as they travel to a different planet. They will begin to recognise higher and lower sounds and the shape of different melodies used by their 'alien friends'. They will also sing and compose short melodies and begin notating pitch through waves and dots.	In this unit of work, the children will learn about the different components that make up a computer and identify whether they are input or output devices. The children will also explore how technology is used in everyday life, specifically in the school environment, and how this can be beneficial.	Our first R.E topic is 'Special places'. The children will learn about the Hindu Mandir and how it is a special place for Hindus.

P.E AND OUTDOOR LEARNING

Every week, the children have two P.E. sessions with our sports coaches, Coach Jordan, James, Charlotte, and Rosie.

During the autumn term, one of these sessions is held in our **outdoor learning area** and the children are taught important skills such as teamwork, resilience and strategic thinking.



During Autumn 1, we will focus on multi-skills - Developing more specific skills of running, jumping, throwing and catching in combination with more focus on working together as a team and how we can be successful. We will allow the children more freedom to express themselves and explore different ways to move.

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

Please note that if children do not come with the correct outdoor learning kit and suitable footwear, then they will not be able to take part.

Coming up...



Tuesday 1st September 2026 - School reopens

Monday 14th September 2026 - School Photographer in school. More details to follow.

Tuesday 15th September 2026 - Diwali Dancing Workshops begin for all Year 2 children.

Friday 25th September 2026 - INSET day

Friday 23rd October 2026 - Light It Up Basingstoke Diwali Celebration for children who sign up to take part. This will be an after-school event. More details to follow.

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October 2026 - Half-Term

Home Learning



Reading

All children are expected to read at least 5 times a week and record this in their reading diary. We monitor reading diaries every Monday, and children should bring them to school each week. We will allocate books for the stage children are working on at the start of each half term. Children can then choose from any of the allocated books to read on Collins Hub.

Times Tables

We would like all children to access Times Tables Rockstars weekly. We recommend that 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.

Contact us



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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How can you help?



Maths:

Now that the children are in Year 2, they will learn their times tables throughout the year. The children will begin with their 10 times table before moving on to the 2 and 5 times tables. Any practice counting in jumps of 10, 2, or 5, or recalling facts, will be beneficial. It would also be helpful for the children to access Times Tables Rockstars at home and play the 'garage' game.

Reading:

Using Collins Hub to read three times a week will help your child develop their fluency. Reading and asking questions about what they have read will also help with their comprehension.

We are already enjoying getting to know your children, and we can't wait for the exciting term ahead.

Very best wishes, The Year 2 Team