

# Year 2

# AUTUMN TERM 2

# CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back!

We hope you have had a wonderful half term break and enjoyed the rest from school after a long Autumn 1 term. This term will be just as busy as we work towards the Christmas holidays. Not only will the children be completing their normal classwork but they will also be practising their Christmas play in the coming weeks.



## English



This half-term, the children will continue to develop their understanding of compound sentences using and, but and so. The children will also work on using and spelling words with the -er and -est suffixes through our unit on 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth'. Later in the half term, we will work on our fiction writing using 'The Bear and the Piano' as a stimulus.

## 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 that you can practise at home too.

## Maths



This half term, we will be applying our understanding of place value to addition and subtraction problems involving the addition and subtraction of 2 2-digit numbers that cross the 10s boundary. Once we complete our addition and subtraction work, we will develop the children's knowledge and understanding of shape by exploring symmetry, vertices, and the number of sides shapes have.

## Science



Our Science unit for this half term is called 'Habitats'. In this unit, the children will learn about habitats and what they need to provide. They explore local habitats to identify and name living things, and they begin to understand how these organisms depend on one another for food and shelter.

## History








This half-term, we will continue our history unit 'Movers and Shakers'. Through this, we will continue to learn about historically significant individuals who have had a profound impact on the world. This half term, we will be learning about activists and their achievements, including Rosa Parks and Emmeline Pankhurst. We will continue to develop their understanding of timelines, stories, and historical sources, using historical models to explore their significance.

## Geography



This half term, we will be continuing with our Geography unit 'Let's Explore the World'. Throughout the rest of this unit, the children will apply their knowledge of atlases, maps, and cardinal compass points. They will also use their understanding of the United Kingdom to compare aspects of England to those of Somalia. We will also conduct fieldwork, collecting primary data in the local area to answer geographical questions.

Music	DT	Computing
		
This term, Year 2 will listen to a range of winter-themed music and songs that will inspire them to create their own musical stories and sounds. They will play a number of games to develop their pitch further and will apply this when playing simple tunes on glockenspiels.	This project teaches children about sources of food and tools used for food preparation. They also discover why some foods are cooked and learn to read a simple recipe. The children choose and make a new school meal that fulfils specific design criteria.	In this unit, the children will be developing an understanding of what algorithms are, how to program them and how they can be developed to be more efficient through a range of unplugged and plugged-in activities.
R.E	PSHE	
		
In this unit, the children will learn about light as a symbol and how candles are used in different religions. They will look at the symbolism of light in the festivals of Hanukkah and Advent and evaluate the importance of this.	This half term, we will be exploring the unit 'Celebrating Difference'. Through this, the children will focus on understanding and embracing differences and learning to manage emotions. They also explore bullying and the impact this can have on individuals.	

## P.E AND OUTDOOR LEARNING

Every week, the children have two P.E sessions with our sports coaches, Coach Jordan, James and Grace. During the summer 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.

This half term, the children will be completing a dance unit. In this, they will learn a dance to perform with control, coordination and in time to the beat of the music. The children will begin to use slightly more complex movement patterns and will work on remembering their dance routine from week to week in order to progress it over the course of the half-term.



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...



### Explorer Dome

Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th November 2025

As part of our science unit, we have organised for the 'Explorer Dome' to come to school to do a workshop about Habitats for the children. In this, they will learn about how animals adapt to their environments and the different types of environments.



## Home Learning



### 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



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:

### **Class 7**

Mr Dave Tickle

[d.tickle@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:d.tickle@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk)

Miss Jess Chisnall

[j.chisnall@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:j.chisnall@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk)

### **Class 8**

Miss Anna Quick

[a.quick@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:a.quick@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk)

### **Class 9**

Mrs Tatiana Hardyman

[t.hardyman@oakridge-inf.hants.sch.uk](mailto:t.hardyman@oakridge-inf.hants.sch.uk)

## How can you help?



Now that the children have settled into 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 facts in 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.

The children have worked exceptionally hard over the last half term, and we can't wait for the exciting term ahead.

Very best wishes, The Year 2 Team