



Welcome to the Autumn Term in Year 2!

Welcome to the first term in Year 2. There is so much See below for further information about each subject.

English

Children will explore *The Bear and the Piano* to develop reading and writing skills. They practise retelling the story, focusing on sequencing events and describing characters. Through writing in role, pupils imagine the bear's thoughts and feelings, building empathy and creativity. They write letters of advice, offering guidance to the bear as he faces choices, and short news reports to recount key events. Children also create information posters to share what they have learnt. Alongside this, they use coordinating conjunctions such as *and*, *but*, *or*, *so* to extend sentences, improving grammar, fluency, and confidence in written expression.

Maths

Children will deepen their understanding of place value by working with numbers up to at least 100. They learn that digits represent tens and ones, using practical equipment such as base ten blocks, number lines, and place value charts. Pupils practise partitioning numbers, comparing and ordering them, and recognising patterns in sequences. They explore counting in steps of 2, 5, 10, and later 3, to build fluency. Reading and writing numbers in numerals and words becomes more secure. These skills form the foundation for addition, subtraction, and mental strategies, strengthening number-sense and confidence in problem-solving.

History – Movers and Shakers

Children will learn about significant people who have shaped history, including Neil Armstrong, Marie Curie, Gandhi, and David Attenborough. They explore each individual's achievements, the challenges they faced, and the impact they made on the world. Through stories, research, and discussion, pupils compare how these figures influenced science, exploration, peace, and the environment. Children also study local history, focusing on William Webb Ellis and his connection to the game of rugby, recognising his influence on their community. This learning helps children understand the importance of influential people, inspiring them to think about courage, perseverance, and positive change.

Geography – Let's Explore the World

Children will develop their geographical skills by learning about the world around them. They use maps, globes, and atlases to locate countries, seas, and continents, building awareness of places beyond their own community. Pupils practise using compass directions north, south, east, and west to describe locations and routes. They explore simple map symbols and keys to understand how information is represented. These activities help children develop spatial awareness, curiosity about the wider world, and confidence in geographical language.

Art – Exploring Colour and Still Life

Children will explore still life art by studying a range of artists and their techniques. They look at works by artists such as Paul Cézanne, who painted everyday objects with bold colours and shapes, and Georgia O'Keeffe, who focused on natural forms like flowers. Pupils experiment with drawing and painting objects from observation, learning to notice detail, shape, and proportion. They practise using colour, shading, and texture to create effect. This topic encourages creativity, close observation, and an appreciation of how artists represent the world around them.

Design & Technology – Remarkable Recipes

Children will be developing their cooking skills to create some truly remarkable food!

PSHE

Children will learn from the *Being Me* unit from Jigsaw PSHE to explore their identity, feelings, and place in the school community. They learn about rights, responsibilities, and teamwork, while developing self-confidence and empathy. Activities encourage reflection, goal-setting, and understanding how individual actions contribute to collective well-being.

Religious Education

Children explore the Jigsaw RE unit *Is it possible to be kind to everyone all of the time?* They reflect on kindness, fairness, and forgiveness through stories and discussions. Pupils consider different faith perspectives, share personal experiences, and develop empathy, learning the importance of compassion in daily life.

PE

Children will develop their ball skills through activities that build control, coordination, and accuracy. They practise rolling, throwing, catching, and kicking, both individually and in teams. These skills improve agility, teamwork, and confidence, forming the foundation for playing a variety of sports.

Computing

Children will refresh and develop their knowledge about online safety and also look at animation.

Music

Children will listen attentively to short and longer pieces, recognising patterns, rhythms, and giving positive feedback on performances. They learn to sing with control, breathing correctly, using dynamics, and matching tempo in call-and-response chants. Pupils practise keeping steady beats, playing instruments accurately, and creating sound responses to stimuli. They improvise simple phrases, experiment with rhythm, and compose short sequences to represent ideas. Working collaboratively, children combine sounds, perform confidently in groups, and reflect thoughtfully on music, developing creativity, awareness, and enjoyment of performance and composition.

Languages - We will be learning French during PPA time