

Curriculum statements – Year 2

Autumn 1 – Towers, Tunnels and Turrets

See the castle ahead? Get ready to invade its mighty walls! Shoot a projectile with an archer's aim! Head across the drawbridge, over the moat and up to the top of the tower...

Then dig deep, deep down making burrows and tunnels, just like the animals that live underground.

And finally...meet three little pigs who need your help to build a strong fortress. Inside its strong walls they'll be safe from the big, bad wolf! No huffing and puffing will blow your fortress down!

This topic will give children opportunity to explore and learn in the outside environment including our nature area. Children will be working as a team to build the tallest tower to safely hold an egg, burrowing and digging tunnels underground and using materials to make tunnels on top of the ground as well as looking at different habitats and how they are best suited for different living things.

Literacy – Children will be reading and sharing the traditional tales of Rapunzel, The 3 Little Pigs and Rapunzel. We will be looking at the setting, characters and structure of the fantasy story 'The Tunnel' by the famous author Anthony Browne and then writing our own narratives based on this text. We will also be writing postcards and letters from the Billy Goats Gruff and the troll under the bridge.

Numeracy – Children will start the term by reading, writing and ordering numbers and partitioning 2 and 3 digit numbers. They will be developing their addition and subtraction skills and understanding the difference between the 2 operations, as well as learning about inverse operations. The children will be practising their times tables, counting in 2s, 3s and 5s.

Autumn 2 – Mud, Mess and Mixture

Let's get messy! Muck and mess is good! In fact, it's mega – marvellous!

Dive in and get your hands and feet all sticky and covered in paint. Play with liquids, squish some clay and check out the slushiest and mushiest food.

Pour, mix, stir and splat! How does it feel to get your hands covered in mess?

Don't worry about the mess...it'll always wash off!

This topic will give the children opportunities to participate in a range of science experiments, becoming familiar with the investigation process of making a prediction, carrying out an experiment, finding the results and making conclusions. In art we will be looking at and recreating work by the famous artists Carl Warner and Kurt Schwitters and will be learning about food from around the world in our DT lessons.

Literacy – We will start the term by reading and sharing Roald Dahl's 'George's Marvellous Medicine'. We will then begin to think of our own marvellous concoctions by looking at

'Revolting Recipes' also by Roald Dahl. We will write lists, captions, instructions and letters all based on our own marvellous revolting recipe! We will finish the term by reading; sharing and learning off by heart a range of poems.

Numeracy – The children will be identifying and describing the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. They will add and subtract numbers using objects and pictures and will solve missing number problems using inverse. They will also use the £ and p symbol and solve simple problems using money.

Spring 1 – Land Ahoy

Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum! Arrr...me hearties – it's a sailor's life for me!
Get your sea legs on, it's time to sail the salty seas. Navigate, investigate and explore the world – just like Captain Cook.
Make a boat, sink a ship, fly a pirate flag!
How do rescues happen at sea? Find out about brave volunteers and young Miss Darling, rowing her boat across stormy seas. Sing a sea shanty whilst cleaning the poop deck then search the school grounds for Captain Longbeard's hidden treasure.
Thar's land ahead, me hearties! Let's get the ship to the port!

This term we will find out all about a variety of famous people from the past such as Captain James Cook, Grace Darling and different famous pirates. We will carry out careful observational drawing and make maps for giving simple directions.

Literacy – We will be using a range of information texts to research different famous people associated with the seas and will find out about lifeboats and their role in rescuing people. Our poetry for this term will be based on learning and making different sea shanties.

Numeracy – The children will focus on fractions this term and interpret and construct simple pictograms, tally charts and tables. They will also calculate and write mathematical statements for multiplication and division.

Spring 2 – The Scented Garden

Tiptoe through the tulips as your senses discover the blooming foliage and enchanted fragrances of flowers and herbs. Round and round the mulberry bush we go, planting bulbs and seeds, and then watch them grow beneath sunshine and showers.
Explore the astounding world of the scented garden, but be careful, there are some wild and dangerous plants out there that do astonishing things-just don't touch!
Use the marvellous properties of plants, flowers and herbs to make an exceptional gift for somebody special.
Everything is coming up roses! Why not grow your own?

This term, in science, children will be describing how plants grow and identifying what a plant needs for healthy growth and survival. In DT children will be making their own fragrant products in the mud kitchen.

Literacy – In Literacy children will be reading non-chronological reports about plants and gardening, then using this information to write their own report. Next, the children will go on

to make their own discovery of a new type of flower! They will present their findings to the class.

Numeracy –Children will reconsolidate their learning on fractions and shape. In addition to this, we will be learning to tell the time to the nearest five minutes and sequencing time intervals.

Summer 1 – Street Detectives

This way or that way? Where should we go? Up to the local shops or down to the playing fields? Let's learn about our local community, looking at houses old and new and finding out how our streets have changed since our mums and dads were young. Perhaps Granny or Grandpa went to your school or maybe they worked in the baker's shop?

Make maps and plans of the streets around us, planning our routes. What can you see? What can we find? Whereabouts do you live? Do you know your address?

When the local councillor writes and asks us to help make our street a better place, it's time to get your thinking caps on and paint brushes at the ready!

Ready to roll, street detectives? Get your clipboards and cameras...it's time to start investigating?

This term children will be participating in a lot of fieldwork within the local area, looking at human and physical features and making maps and plans. We will observe changes to the area over time and be investigating significant people, places and events within the local area.

Literacy – Much of this term will be spent looking at a range of quest and adventure stories. We will be writing recounts and introducing diary writing. We will be writing rhyming couplets and learning poetry off by heart.

Numeracy –Children will be solving multiplication and division calculations and recalling the 2s, 5s and 10 times tables. We will be describing position, direction and movement using mathematical language, distinguishing between straight line movement and rotation. Children will be choosing and using simple units to measure lengths, masses and capacities.

Summer 2 - Wriggle and Crawl

Grab your coat and pooter – we're going out and about on a minibeast hunt!

Sweep your nets in puddles and ponds and lift up logs to see who is at home. Set up your own minibeast laboratory and observe their every move. Add notes and labels and ask your own research questions – just like a real entomologist!

Learn about bees and worms and butterflies too. Can you make a food chain to show who eats who? Carry out investigations to find out more, like how far a snail travels in a day and how a spider catches its prey.

Then make an animation to show how your favourite bug transforms from one form to another, perhaps a caterpillar to a butterfly or a maggot to a fly... urgh!

On your belly, legs at the ready, it's time to wriggle and crawl!

This term we will spend a lot of time outside looking at living things and their habitats; including animals and humans. We will investigate the origins of different foods and how food is grown.

Literacy – This term we will use our science work to help us write information books about how things live and grow. We will then spend some time reading, sharing and comparing books by the same author. We will complete some visual literacy activities based on ‘Bee Movie’.

Numeracy – We will be revising the skills taught throughout the year and applying their knowledge to problem solving activities.

All year in Year 2

Speaking and Listening

Children will be given fortnightly talk time to do as part of their home learning. Please spend time with your child every fortnight discussing the talk time topic in preparation for their writing in class. This will give them ideas and a structure to their writing.

Handwriting

Children have weekly handwriting practice with the class teacher. In year 2 children are expected to print their letters and then towards the end of the year some children will be encouraged to start showing elements of joined up writing.

Phonics

Phonics is taught through the Letters and Sounds scheme and the No Nonsense Spelling scheme and covers the year 2 spelling curriculum. We have daily phonics and spelling sessions.

Reading

Reading opens the door to learning and to the world. It underpins everything we do and is essential to everyday life. Our job is to develop children’s reading skills and to foster a love for reading and of books. It is vital that your child reads regularly both at home and at school. At school we read throughout the day, during literacy sessions, guided reading sessions and throughout the curriculum. Your child will choose a book to take home daily, along with their reading record book. Please continue to use the reading record book to record which pages they have read to you, to mention any difficulties and to ask us any questions. When reading we focus on comprehension skills as well as reading skills so please make sure you ask your child questions about what they have read.

Numeracy

We have daily maths lessons which cover the 4 rules of number as well as shape, fractions, data handling, measurement, weight and capacity. We practise our times tables daily using the ‘Rockstars’ programme. Please encourage your child to practise their times tables for the week at home as this will improve their score at school.

Targets

Children have targets in numeracy, reading and writing. Please ask your child what their current targets are and encourage them to continue to work on them at home.

Home learning

Reading – Please read regularly with your child at home. Try to read every evening if possible and encourage your child to talk about what they have read.

Spelling - Your child will bring home spellings every week to learn. These will be given out on a Friday and will need to be practised every day ready for a test on the following Friday.

Literacy / Numeracy - They will also bring home alternate literacy and numeracy home learning every week. This will be given out every Wednesday and needs to be completed and back in school by the following Monday.

Topic – A selection of activities based on each term's topic will be sent home at the beginning of Terms 1, 3 and 5. Your child will be asked to complete one of these activities with you and this should be returned to school in the last week of term. At the end of each of these terms we will invite parents into school to see their children's work on display.