

# Year 2

## Curriculum Newsletter



BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS STRAIGHT FROM THE CLASSROOM



### KEY DATES

End of term 3 –  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup>  
February

Start of term 4 –  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup>  
February

Parent-Teacher Conferences –  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
March

## Ancient History

In history, we learn about people from the past. This term, we will continue to study the ancient Romans, and we will use historical language to explore the early city of Rome, the Kings and the Roman Republic. We will also learn new historical vocabulary and apply it in a range of writing contexts, including letter writing and recounting events in chronological order.

**Key Words:** Ancient, Rome, evidence, kings, senator, republic, Jupiter, Sabine feast, Gauls, sacred.

## Science & Geography

In geography, we will be exploring the water cycle and rivers around the world. We will begin by studying the sources of rivers, and looking at how they flow. After this, we will look at some well-known rivers and will be writing fact files related to them.

**Key Words:** River, riverbed, riverbank, tributary, channel, river source, river mouth, water cycle, evaporation, condensation, pollution, environment, the River Thames, the Amazon, the Ganges.

This term in science, we will be learning about electricity and sources of energy. We will look at how everyday electrical objects are powered, what it means to conduct electricity and which sources of energy are better for our environment. We will conduct an investigation into insulators and conductors and will work towards an independent piece of instruction writing based on this investigation.

**Key Words:** Electricity, mains, battery, energy, sustainable, renewable, non-renewable, conductor, insulator, circuit.

## English & Grammar

This term, we will look at twists on familiar traditional tales such as Little Red Riding Hood. We will focus in particular on the story of Hansel and Gretel by Anthony Browne, and compare this to a version of the same story by Michael Morpurgo. We will consolidate grammar from Term 1 and 2, and introduce: the apostrophe of omission and the possessive apostrophe, adverbs which describe verbs, homophones, co-ordinating conjunctions and writing in the past progressive tense. The independent writing assessments will include a book review, and a detailed forest setting description. For spelling we will look at the -ful and -less suffix in more detail, and continue to teach and test the children weekly on the Year 2 spelling rules.

## Maths

This term in maths, we will be starting multiplication and division of 2s, 5s and 10s. Children will become familiar with representing multiplication and division concepts through part-whole models, bar models, arrays, bead strings and number lines. They will then progress on to equations, one and two step word problems and exploring inverse operations.

Following this unit, we will be exploring time, and children will learn to tell the time to five-minute intervals, quarter to and quarter past. We will build on existing vocabulary related to time and apply this understanding to time word problems, including durations of time.

**Key Words:** Minutes, intervals, hours, sequence, duration, analogue, quarter past, quarter to, multiply, divide, share, grouping, array, groups of, commutative, inverse.

## Art

This term, the children will be learning about one of the spells in the ancient Egyptian book of the dead. They will learn about papyrus paper and then make their own version of it. They will learn about hieroglyphics and have a go at writing using the symbols. They will design their own monstrous devourer by combining two or three animals together. They will then re-create their design in three-dimensional form using clay.

Vocabulary: Monstrous devourer, River Nile, Papyrus, Hieroglyphics, Feather of Truth, Three-dimensional, Form.

Then the children will be learning about David Hockney. They will be creating their own Californian style collage and then use an iPad, like Hockney, to make a digital piece of art.

Vocabulary: Splash, Vibrant, Cool, Warm, Mixing, Shades, Tints, Digital.

## PSHE

The Year Twos will be covering 'Growing Up' and 'Staying Healthy'.

We will study the human life cycle, careers that adults may have, the different types of careers that the children could choose and the role of education in helping them to develop the skills, knowledge and attributes required. We will also discuss what 'health' means, and the things we can do to keep ourselves physically and mentally healthy.

## Music

This term, we will continue to develop our understanding of pitch, pulse and rhythm with fun games and exercises while also learning to sing songs of roughly ABRSM Grade 3 difficulty. This term we will also be learning about some of the instruments of the orchestra and listening analytically to pieces of music written for orchestra.

## Religious Education

In the Autumn Term, we learned about Judaism and Christianity. In Spring 1 we will learn about Buddhism and in Spring 2 we move on to Hinduism. Key themes: What do these religions believe; what are their sacred texts; what are their places of worship?

## PE

This term, we will be introducing gymnastics. We will be looking at travelling movements, climbing, jumping and landing. We will also be using the mats to work on our gross motor skills.

