



Year 1 and 2 Class Newsletter Autumn Term 2 2024 - 2025

Welcome back!

We hope you've had a lovely half term break and are ready for the excitement of the second Autumn term. We have a lot of crucial learning planned for this term and we are of course looking forward to practicing our Nativity.

This year our Nativity is called 'Simply the Nativity'. Please keep an eye out for casting and costume information in books bags (we will endeavour to keep the costumes as simple as we can). Please also help children to read/rehearse/remember their lines in the run up to the big day!

A quick note about homework in Key Stage 1. Please ensure your child reads at least 3 times a week. We can't emphasise enough how much a positive impact this has on your child's education and confidence in school as a whole. Remember to sign their reading record so they can achieve their coveted reading awards in assembly and put their picture up in the library! They should also be practicing the spellings in their spelling passport which is in the back of their reading records. Year 2 should be playing Spelling Shed and TT Rockstars at home also. Thank you for your support with this.

Curriculum

English	Year 1	Much like last half term, we will be developing and fully embedding our ability to write a sentence accurately. Remembering how and when we will be using full stops, spaces between our words and capital letters in the correct places within a sentence. To keep up our enthusiasm for writing, we will be starting with a unit of poetry on Fireworks. This short and sharp unit will ensure that we are able to describe fireworks accurately and then follow a simple poem pattern both neatly and accurately. Following on from this, we will start to look at the text ' <i>Highway Rat</i> '. Within this unit, we will consolidate and embed our learning of writing about what we can see within illustrations, as well as starting to re-tell the story in simple sentences. After that, we will look at the text <i>The Search for the Giant Arctic Jellyfish</i> . This text is full of imagination, adventure and excitement. We will start to put together our understanding of a sequence of events, thinking about what happens at the beginning, middle and end of the text and eventually, start to write up our own version, using our simple and accurate sentences. To finish this half term off, we will also be writing a short fact file about Remembrance. This will link in with our history unit this half term so we will have compiled lots of facts and information ready to fill up our fact file with lots of interesting facts and ideas!
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	Year 2	<p>We are starting our term by writing some poetry. We are writing all about bonfire night. We are going to be concentrating on using commas, writing verses and writing in a poetic style - which is quite tricky!</p> <p>We will then be moving onto writing descriptions using the story <i>Man on The Moon</i>. I am hoping the children haven't read this book before so that we can develop our prediction skills before diving into the writing. We will be thinking about the main character and describing both what he looks like and his personality, and writing these ideas in full sentences. Then we will move onto writing expanded noun phrases e.g. his white, puffy spacesuit.</p> <p>Finally, we will be developing our narration skills; we will be writing the story of the Man on the Moon. We will make sure that our sentences are correctly punctuated, that we use conjunctions and that our writing flows and is 'cohesive'.</p>
Maths	Year 1	<p>We will continue working through our unit of addition and subtraction. These are fundamental skills that the children need to be able to recall both quickly and accurately. We will have a huge focus on our number bonds to 10 as well as starting to develop our understanding of subtraction. We will continue to use our part whole model for subtraction, much like we have for addition. Initially, we will introduce the concept of subtraction as taking away and crossing our pictorial representations of numbers to ensure that children are fully aware that when we take away, our total becomes smaller. We will also be looking at how we use a number line. This can be a little bit of a tricky concept however; I know that we will master it one way or another! Following our unit of addition and subtraction, we will be looking at Geometry, focusing on naming, sorting and making patterns with 2D and 3D shapes.</p>
	Year 2	<p>We will be continuing our work on addition and subtraction for the first couple of weeks in Year 2. We will be using dienes (tens and ones resources) to learn about adding and subtracting tens, then we will move onto using them to 'see' the column method before writing it into our books. This skill is a basic fundamental that we want to make sure all children can do before moving on.</p> <p>In the second part of the term, we will be learning all about shape. First of all we will look at the properties of 2D shapes and see if we can use these properties to sort the shapes into groups. We will be looking at lines of symmetry and then we will look at 3D shapes and count their faces, edges and vertices.</p>
Phonics	Year 1	<p>Again, we will continue to develop our Phase 5 phonics knowledge and this will of course, follow our Phonics Scheme of Little Wandle. This half term there is virtually a new sound each day, therefore, it is imperative as much as possible to ensure that your children are in school as much as possible as any time missed, especially in phonics, has a huge impact on their early reading.</p>
Spelling	Year 2	<p>We will continue to use Spelling Pathways as our spelling programme in Year 2. The children have learnt so many spelling patterns already and using Spelling Shed to embed the learning at school has enabled them to make so much progress already. Thank you for your support.</p> <p>This term the following spelling rules will be taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common exception words e.g. busy, father • Adding -er, -est -y doubling the consonant e.g. funny, bigger • Adding -er, -est, -y to root word ending in e e.g. safest, closer • Adding -er, -est to a root word ending in y e.g. happier, sunniest • Ey grapheme and 'u' sound spelt o e.g. chimney, mother • Homophones e.g. they're/there/their

History	All children	This half term our curriculum topic is all about <i>Remembrance</i> . Within this unit we will be thinking about what Remembrance is, why we are still celebrating it today as well as thinking about the significance of World War I and World War II. We will start to think about what soldiers who were off to war would be wearing and have with them whilst in battle as well as looking into the impact and roles that animals had during the war effort. Within this unit of learning, we will be thinking about what we can learn from both primary and secondary sources, thinking about if these are reliable and can we always take things as we see them. We will also start to think about asking historical questions that are relevant to our topic of Remembrance too.
Science	All children	We will be continuing our topic of <i>Everyday Materials</i> this half term. We have covered the basics but now we are really going to delve a little deeper into our understanding of the materials. We will be thinking about how we describe their properties as well as comparing and grouping materials together according to their properties too.
Art	All children	Observational drawing is our unit for this half term. Within this unit, we will be thinking about how we can use and explore different ways of folding and tearing and crumpling different materials to create images. We learn how to use a range of techniques in using texture, line, shapes within our observational drawings and how these can be used. The artist that we will be focusing on this half term will be Monet and we will be thinking about things we enjoy and dislike about his art style.
Computing	All children	Our computing this half term will still focus on logging in and onto Purple Mash. All children have the details for this in their reading records and any additional help and support of developing this skill at home would be greatly appreciated! Purple Mash is full of exciting and educational games, so feel free to have a look and a play at home! We will of course be covering more Digital and Media Literacy and Online Safety. Within these lessons, we will be thinking about how we don't share our passwords or real names online and how we should always be thinking that something might not be true when we are reading and watching things online. Following this, we will continue to develop our knowledge of Grouping and Sorting. The children will do this by creating their own quiz with lots of different types of questions as well as having to search for specific images through the safe image search via the Purple Mash application we will be using.
PSHE	All children	We will continue our PSHE journey by working our way through the topic <i>Living in the Wider World</i> still. However, this half term we will continue to talk about the internet, thinking about the benefits and draw backs as well as starting to introduce wider questions thinking about <i>Money and Work</i> . Within this sequence of lessons, we will be thinking about how everyone has different strengths in and out of school as well as thinking about how these strengths are needed to do different jobs. We will think about jobs within the community that provide help as well as the different types of jobs we could personally do and how money and work are linked.
RE	All children	Again, we will continue looking at why stories are so important to some people. We will be thinking about what books are important to Christians and what books are important within the Jewish faith too. We will think about hidden messages, stories that have bigger meanings as well as stories from the Bible that we just enjoy and listen to. We will think about how and why people believe in different things and have discussions about how we deal with differences of opinion and how we are all different and believe in different things too.

PE	All children	PE days will remain as a Tuesday and Thursday for both Year 1 and 2. Please can all children come to school in their PE kit. We always endeavour for our PE lessons to be outside as much as possible even when it is a little drizzly. Therefore, please can we ensure that all children have a coat or a jacket to wear during PE lessons when outside and raining.
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Mrs Thurlow and Mrs Clarke
Year 1 and 2 Class Teachers