

Year 2 Spring 2

Our topic is...



Big

Adventures

Supporting your child's learning at home

The most effective way of supporting your child's learning is by taking an interest in what they are doing. This leaflet should give you a starting point for talking about what learning your child is doing at school. There are ideas below to support their learning at home.

English

In English this half term we will be reading poetry, fiction books and watching a film. After half term the children will be focusing on the use of descriptive language and writing this in poems, diaries and short stories. We will be exploring the features of diary writing such as correct tense, using pronouns, writing as if we are talking and adding detail to make writing interesting to read.

At home you could:

- Continue reading with your child regularly and practising the phonic sounds in the Reading Diary.
- Finding new and interesting vocabulary when reading.
- Learning weekly spelling words and the words on the Common Exception Word Mat (you will find this in the spelling booklet).
- Note when capital letters are used for proper nouns such as places, names and teams.
- Practise handwriting when learning spelling words.

Mathematics

We will begin by recapping our knowledge of 2D shape from year 1. We will think about the properties of shape as well as if they are polygons or not. We will also compare these with the properties of 3D shapes making sure we are confident with their names too. We will spend two weeks looking at Fractions and the link this has to division. We will think about $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{2}{3}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ and the whole. At the end of this half term we will be looking at time. We will teach 'o' clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to and encourage children to count round the clock in 5 minute intervals.

At home you could:

- Always support your child with their maths homework, as it will help them with activities covered in class.
- Continue to practise number facts such as doubles and halves to 20. We will be linking this knowledge to $\times 2$ and $\div 2$.
- Count in 2, 3, 5 and 10's and relate this to the times tables. We will link known multiplication facts with division. (i.e $2 \times 6 = 12$, so $12 \div 2 = 6$)
- When you slice up a cake or pizza, talk about the fraction. Are you cutting it equally in half? Thirds? Quarters? Etc...
- Practise reading the time and making links to times of day that things occur.

Science

We will be exploring life processes and life cycles of common animals. Year 2 children will be observing changes to caterpillars and chicks. They will then be creating their own life cycles and showing their understanding of how they are best suited to their habitat. Our caterpillars and eggs will be arriving in March for our observations.

Our investigation this half term will be based around the best way to grow a healthy plant. We will be growing seeds in a range of conditions to prove what a seed needs to germinate. We will then be monitoring their growth over the half term and recording which conditions are best for plant growth.

At home you could:

- Go to the library and find books about life cycles.
- Notice changes with plants and animals when out walking e.g. tadpoles and chicks at the pond.
- Use Education City activities.

Computing

In computing this half term we will be using Purple Mash to create our own stars and star vocabulary. The children will learn how to change the font style, size and colour.

At home you could:

- Continue to discuss Internet safety with your child.
- Use Purple Mash maths games such as Bond Bubbles, Fraction Wall, Sequence Snake, Fractonio's Pizzeria. Use Education City for English and Maths skills.
- Use Word to write a thank you letter, party invitation or diary entry.

Art 'Spring into Spring Project'

This half term, we will be starting a series of 6 lessons that explore the beauty of Spring and Nature. To link to our science of life cycles and to make the most of the school grounds we will be focussing on flowers and seeds and their development during Spring. This will include experimenting with different textures and colours in Art sessions before designing their own flower. We will also be doing some observational drawings of the new flowers that bloom such as daffodils. The children will be designing their own seed packet with instructions on how to look after and grow it.

Geography

Our topic this half term is focused around maps. We will explore what is meant by a 'Bird's eye view,' create a map of the classroom layout as well as designing our own imaginary map. We will be investigating compass points too and what we can see when we face a certain direction. We will make links to a compass and its use on a map so that we can navigate around.

Music

This half term we will be focusing our learning on a 'Reggae style' song called 'Zootime'. We will be building on our knowledge of finding the pulse as well as integrating rhythm, pitch with singing and instruments. Each lesson will follow the same structure, of listening and discovering new pulse and rhythm before moving on to learning the song. Across the half term we will be introducing instruments and composing our own reggae style song.

P.E

The children will be continuing to explore the new PE units of work that we have, starting off with Racket, Bat and Ball skills.

R.E

Our topic this half term continues the Hindu theme when we remember Vishnu and elements of the Hindu faith.

Trailblazers

Outdoor learning specifically developing discovery, exploration and care of our environment will take place on Wednesday afternoons. This half term the children will be using the outside environment to plant, chit their potatoes and prepare for Spring.

Class dojo:



Please remember you can message **any** of the Year 2 teachers on Class dojo with queries or questions that you may have.

Beech Class - Miss Jackson

Oak Class – Mrs Hayes

Many thanks,

The Year 2 Team