

Year 2 Spring Curriculum Overview



Welcome back 😊

I hope you've all had a restful break. We have lots of exciting learning planned for the Spring term. Below you will find all the relevant information.

Reading

Nearly all of our children are now working within reading fluency groups. The children are working incredibly hard to read with confidence, focusing on reading smoothly and accurately rather than overt sounding out and blending. Regular reading at home continues to make a huge difference.

English

Spring 1

During Spring 1, we will be reading *Vlad and the Great Fire of London* by Kate Cunningham. This text links closely with our History topic. Children will be writing a diary entry as a recount and a non-chronological report, developing their use of factual language. Alongside this, we will continue to build spelling, punctuation and grammar skills.

Spring 2

In Spring 2, we will be reading *Hansel and Gretel*. Using this story, children will write a recount as well as a setting description and a character description to entertain the reader.

Across both half terms, there will be a strong focus on editing and proofreading. Children are very good at using exciting vocabulary and we are now encouraging them to re-read their work to check that it makes sense and that punctuation is used correctly. Please continue to practise spellings at home, as this has a big impact on children's confidence and success in writing. We are also working hard to secure correct letter formation, with some children beginning to join letters. Handwriting is an important expectation within the curriculum and will be practised at least three times per week.

Spelling

We are now well into our Little Wandle Spelling units. Children take part in daily lessons that focus on spelling rules and the phonetic code. Regular practice at home is extremely helpful as it supports spelling accuracy and frees up working memory for other aspects of writing.

Maths

This term in Maths, children will be learning about multiplication and division, money and fractions. We will also continue with our Mastery of Number sessions, which focus on developing strong mental arithmetic skills. Children will be using Times Table Rock Stars to support their multiplication and division knowledge. Those who are still using Numbots are encouraged to continue, as this supports number skills needed for many other mathematical concepts.

Science

In Science, we will be learning about living things and habitats. Children will explore what makes something living, learn about different habitats and discover how living things depend on their environment. Scientific enquiry skills will be developed through observation and simple investigations.

History

Our history topic this term is the Great Fire of London. Children will learn how the fire started, why it spread so quickly and what could have been done to prevent the spread. We will explore a range of historical sources and discuss how we know about this important event.

Geography

During Spring 2, we will return to Geography, focusing on the United Kingdom. Children will learn about landmarks, human and physical features and the oceans that surround the UK.

PE

PE lessons will take place on Tuesday and Thursday and will be taught by Mr Uppal, our sports coach. As PE is a compulsory subject, please ensure your child comes to school wearing the correct PE kit so they can take part fully. **Jewellery must be removed** and long hair should be tied back. The PE kit consists of a white t-shirt, red or black shorts, grey or black tracksuit bottoms, a red jumper or hoody and trainers.

Please remember to remove earrings or send children in with their own plasters.

Music

Children will be learning to play the P Buzz as a class. Instruments are provided by the school, and lessons are delivered by Sandwell Music Services. We hope this experience gives children the opportunity to explore learning a musical instrument and possibly develop this interest further in the future.

Art

This half term in Art, we will be exploring expressive painting. Children will study a range of artists who use expressive techniques and will develop their skills in colour mixing and brushstrokes before creating a final piece.

Design and Technology

In Design and Technology, we will be exploring food and nutrition. Children will learn about food safety and hygiene, practise a range of cutting techniques and safely prepare food. They will design and create a healthy snack for a party using the resources available.

Computing

In Computing, children will be learning about pictograms where Children learn how to collect, organise and represent data using pictograms. They explore what data is and why it is useful, before creating their own pictograms to show information clearly. Children are introduced to the idea that algorithms are a set of clear instructions. Using floor robots (such as Bee-Bots or similar), children learn how to plan, create and test simple programs.

PSHE

In Spring 1, our PSHE topic is Dreams and Goals. Children will explore setting realistic goals, persevering when things feel tricky, recognising personal strengths and working with others. In Spring 2, we will move on to the topic Healthy Me, where children will learn about healthy bodies and minds, including healthy eating, exercise, making positive choices and building healthy relationships.

RE

In Spring 1, we will explore the question, “How and why are some books holy?” by learning about sacred texts in Sikhism, Islam and Christianity. In Spring 2, we will focus on Easter, learning about its religious meaning for Christians and how it is celebrated.

Homework

Children are expected to practise their spellings regularly, even if only for a few minutes each day. They should also use Numbots or Times Table Rock Stars, with login details available in their reading records. Regular reading at home is strongly encouraged, and reading practice books should be shared as often as possible.

Other Information

Please ensure that all clothing, shoes, bags and water bottles are clearly labelled, as unnamed items are difficult to return. Children should bring their book bag to school every day, as individual reading slots vary across the week. They should also bring a labelled water bottle and may bring a healthy snack for breaktime if they wish.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me either in person or email at Year2.als@annielennard.sandwell.sch.uk 😊

I will try my best to reply as quickly as possible within working hours.

We look forward to seeing you all soon,

Miss Kershaw, Miss Skipp and Mrs Sharif