

Curriculum Overview

A summary of what the children in **Yew Class** will be learning this half term – Autumn 1, 2023

English

In English this half term, we are kicking off with a beautifully illustrated book called *The Fox and The Star* by Coralie Bickford-Smith. The children are taking inspiration from the stylistic images, vivid descriptive language and heart-warming plot to create their very own story that follows a similar premise. Our grammar focus has been consolidating use of punctuation and making sure that different sentence types have appropriate end punctuation at all times. The children are also incorporating conjunctions where appropriate, to ensure that their sentences are becoming more varied, as well as learning new Year 2 spellings along the way.

Having assessed the children on their phonics knowledge, the children have now resumed these groups on a daily basis in addition to the whole class English lessons. The children each have a phonics book to take home and read, and this book will be changed at least weekly on a Friday.

Each child also has been given a personalised set of QR codes which, if you scan them, give access to useful phonics videos which will help support their learning at home. Please make the most of this fantastic resource so that we can boost the children's learning as much as possible!

Maths

In Maths this half term we are following the White Rose maths scheme, which parents can also access online at no cost <https://whiteroseeducation.com/> We are focussing on place value at the moment, looking at 2 digit numbers and how to partition them in different ways. We will also be getting familiar with number lines and how to estimate a value on a number line.

The children often work in partners or groups to discuss their learning, as well as in small focus groups with Mrs Robertson at different stages of the lesson. We use physical resources such as bead strings and 'Base 10' sticks and blocks to represent numbers. This helps the children share their understanding in different ways.

The children will need to learn how to count confidently in 2s, 5s and 10s, both backwards and forwards, and this would be a fantastic skill to practice at home as well as school.

French

Year 2 will have a weekly French lesson with Mrs Davidson and also plenty of ad hoc French chatter with Mrs Robertson throughout the half term! We hope that the children enjoy the songs and games and also take confidence in how much they can work out themselves.

PE

In PE this half term, the children will be doing gymnastic with Mrs Robertson (Tuesdays) and multi-skills outside with Mr Madden (Fridays). In gymnastics we will learn about different movements, shapes and balances, and how to create an interesting routine. We will learn new vocabulary such as 'in unison' and 'in canon' which also links with dance later on in the year. Mr Madden will continue to teach focussed lessons that build the children's stamina, agility and precision in a range of sporting techniques.

RE

In RE this half term, we will be learning about Islam. This will provide the children with an introduction to the religion before following up with more content later in the year. We will learn about different individuals' lives, what it's like inside a mosque, how Muslims view Allah, and we will also explore stories from the Qu'ran and what they teach us.

Science

In Science we are learning about light, and we will explore the following questions: What is light? How does it travel? How do we see things? Which materials are reflective? Can we change the size of a shadow? Whenever possible, we will discover the answers using practical methods.

History

This half term our focus is 'Famous Scientists, Engineers and Historians.' We will learn about the work and significance of George Stephenson, Mary Anning, Brunel, Mary Seacole, Marie Curie and Stephen Hawking. We will begin to understand chronology and the context of these people's work in their time.