Year 2 Newsletter
Autumn 2—2025/2026

Phonics/Reading

This term the year group is split into two groups, one group will learn the 75 phonics sounds, learning to read with fluency and expression. They will bring home their RWI bookbags books.

The rest will start 'Whole Class Reading'. They will learn to read a text in detail, understanding the vocabulary and answer questions. Some of these children will still have a RWI bookbag book and some will start using our accelerated reader software to self select their own reading books.

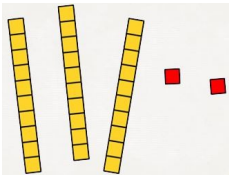
Writing

In writing this term, the children are learning to write a warning tale. They will explore a story called 'Kassim and the Greedy Dragon' and develop the vocabulary of the story through descriptive writing, spine poems and character descriptions. The children will be introduced to similes and compare the dragon using phrases such as, claws as sharp as knives and teeth like daggers. Through short burst writing and interactive story telling, the children will learn to use the structure of the story and invent their own version.



Maths

In maths this half term, the children will continue to add a single-digit number to a two-digit number and subtract a single-digit number from a two-digit number. The children will then work to adding and subtracting two digit numbers. The children will begin to learn and recognise the sides and the vertices of 2-D shapes and faces, edges and vertices of 3-D shapes.



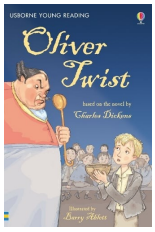
Key Dates

School Trip to Gunnersbury Park – 27th November

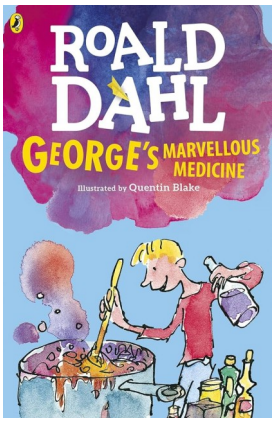
Nativity - Monday 7th December 2:15-3pm
Wednesday 9th December 2:15-3pm

End of Term - Friday 18th December 3:15pm

Whole Class Reading Text



Class Read



Suggested Books for Reading



Science

In science, the children will be learning how to identify and classify if something is alive, was once alive or has never been alive. The children will be exploring what a habitat is, and what makes a good habitat for a variety of plants and animals. Finally, the children will investigate food chains and learn how to construct one.



History

In History, the children will learn about how Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole improved hospitals and saved lives. They will explore the influences that Florence had in her life and the brave steps she took to go to Crimea. They will also learn about the most important achievements in Florence's life and whether everyone had the same opinion of her. They will explore how Mary Seacole overcame her challenges to travel to Crimea and they will learn about the contributions that she made.



Art

Our art unit this term is about drawing in the style of Pablo Picasso. We are learning to draw using pencil and developing lots of different skills including shading and hatching. The students will learn about the artwork of Pablo Picasso and Cubism before creating their own portraits inspired by what they have learned.





PE

In PE this term, the children will develop and apply their jumping and landing and seated balance through focused skill development sessions, cooperative and competitive games. They will learn how to work well in a team and critique each other positively and receive feedback from others. Using balls, they will explore how they can move objects from a seated balance.



RE

In this unit pupils will investigate how Christians and Jews celebrate the natural world. They will examine case studies that to understand that there may be similarities and differences around the world. They will examine the concept of stewardship in Christianity and Jewish idea of tikkun olam.



Music

In this unit, the children will recognise, play and write rhythms with one beats and half beats to accompany a part of a story. They will show a rest beat using a silent movement and begin to follow a written form of music notation. They will explore how they can use a rhythm in different ways to demonstrate a structure to a piece of music and begin to compose their own pieces and perform them.



What you can do to help at home?

Reading unlocks all of the other subjects in our curriculum and its imperative that children learn to read effectively. Please support your child in their learning journey by hearing them read as much as possible aiming to 'strive for five'. Children should be able to explain what they have read and be able to answer questions about the story.

PSHE

This term we will be thinking about 'Celebrating differences' in PSHE. As part of this, the children will begin to discuss stereotypes and understand that we can make assumptions based on people's gender. We begin to discuss bullying and how it can be based on differences. We will also be recognising what is right or wrong and learning how to stand up for ourselves and others when things are not right. We will be celebrating the differences of others.

