



Year 2

Half Termly Update

Summer 1

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a wonderful Easter break and enjoyed the sunshine as much as we did. This half term is set to be a busy one as we get the Year 2 children ready for SATS. We will provide further information about this soon. In the meantime, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask. Thank you once again for your ongoing support.

Year 2 Team

English

This half term we will be reading a wide range of texts including non-fiction and fiction texts. Our texts will link closely to the history and science topics. We will be reading *Gorilla* by Anthony Browne and innovating the story so that the children can add their own ideas. We will also read *Snail and the Whale* by Julia Donaldson and *Gorilla* by Suzi Eszterhas. The children will continue focusing on sentences structure with a big push on editing and improving our work.

Phonics

We are so proud of the progress Year 2 children have made with their phonics. They are all becoming confident, fluent readers. This half term, children will continue with their phonics groups which will help them progress with their reading skills. Please encourage book talk at home with your child as this will help them to become fluent readers.

Maths

This half term, children will look at different units of measure, this includes measuring mass in grams and kilograms and comparing volume in millilitres and litres. Children will have the opportunity to read different scales and begin to understand that number lines can be split into different intervals. This half term there will be a big focus on revising key mathematical skills for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Children in Year 2 should be confident with their 2x, 5x, 10x and 3x tables by the end of the year. Using these skills, children will be taught how to problem solve using efficient methods.

Science

This half term we will be learning about **Dian Fossey and Gorillas**. Dian Fossey was a scientist and conservationist known for undertaking an extensive study of mountain gorilla groups from 1966 – 1985. Dian Fossey set up a foundation to protect mountain gorillas from extinction. The children will discover why animals become endangered around the world and will then become activists by campaigning for endangered species, making posters, as well as masks and models of animals.

P.E.

P.E. lessons will take place on a Thursday afternoon. Children must bring in their P.E. kits each week to get changed. In P.E. lessons, children will learn to run at fast, medium and slow speeds and how to change speed and direction. The children will also take part in the Daily Mile, this will involve running several laps around the playground to improve the children's fitness, stamina and energy levels in class.

History

In History, we will be learning about **Famous Explorers and Exploration**. The children will be introduced to a number of explorers from around the world, including Christopher Columbus, Francis Drake, Amelia Earhart and Marco Polo. The children will learn why they are important to history and have the chance to compare their successes. They will particularly focus on Dian Fossey which will link to their Science learning.

RE

In RE, children will explore the question: **How and why do we celebrate special and sacred times?** Children will discuss the differences between religious and non-religious celebrations with a particular focus on **Ramadan** and **Eid**. They will look at the differences between Eid-al-Adha and Eid-al-Fitr. Then they will look at further similarities and differences between other religious festivals.

Music

Children will have music lessons on a Thursday. This half term they will continue to learn the recorder. This should be brought in each week.

Homework

Homework will be sent home once a week on Friday's. This will include spellings to learn and a Doodle Maths activity. Children should be reading for at least 20 minutes every day and returning their reading diaries daily.