



Supporting Your Child in Year 2

Spring Term 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, I hope you have all had a lovely Christmas break, enjoying precious time with your family. Here is a brief overview of what we will be covering in year 2 over the next term.

English

This term, we will continue to become familiar with different texts through our 'talk for writing' scheme. The children will learn the text through actions and drama and then using a 'text map' to reinvent the story with their own twist.

We will be writing to inform with a non-chronological report and also writing to entertain with a narrative focusing on the description of a setting. We will be having a particular focus on our grammar to make our writing even better by including all of the grammatical features that we will learn.



At home you can help your child by:

- Encouraging the children to share the book with you using actions and drawing a text map.
- Reinvent a story from home, focusing on the setting and the imagery it creates for the reader.
- Encourage using different conjunctions when writing sentences at home.
- Allow opportunities for writing, such as letters to family or friends, shopping lists, notes or reminders, stories or poems. These are positive aspects of writing.

The children will also be learning different spelling rules this term that they can apply in their writing, with a particular focus on suffixes (to add ing, ed, er, est and y to words ending in e with a consonant before it). We will also revisit the common exception words for year 1 and 2 for a gentle reminder. The spellings will continue to be taught, practiced and tested at school and weekly spelling lists will be on the Spelling Shed.



Reading comprehension skills are always a focus in year 2. Once a child knows how to read, it is then important that they understand what they are reading.

At home you can help your child by:

- Listening to them read daily - a little at a time but often, rather than rarely but for long periods of time!
- Enjoy stories together - reading stories to your child is equally as important as listening to your child read.

- All reading is valuable - it doesn't have to be just stories. Reading can involve anything from fiction and non-fiction, poetry, newspapers, magazines, football programmes, TV guides.
- Remember that good readers become good writers! Identify good writing features when reading (e.g. vocabulary, sentence structure, punctuation).
- Talk about the story before, during and afterwards - discuss the plot, the characters, their feelings and actions, how it makes you feel, predict what will happen and encourage your child to have their own opinions - see questions below.

Helpful questions to support your child:

- *Can you make a prediction? What do you think this book will be about?*
- *Can you find a page of the story you liked/didn't like? Why?*
- *What was happening at the beginning of the story?*
- *Can you think of another way to begin this story?*
- *Were you surprised by the ending? Was it what you expected?*
- *Why did (a character) behave in this way?*



Book list:

In year 2 there is a particular focus on 'Traditional tales' books, which are brilliant for re-occurring literacy language. However, it is important that children read a range of books - science, fact books, comics, picture books and poetry. When the children will sit their special agent tests in May (SATs to us adults) there will be a mix of different texts, so it is important that the children are exposed to a range of reading.

Some key year 2 text recommendations:

- Horrible histories and horrible Science books.
- Roald Dahl short stories
- Books linked to our science topics or numeracy based stories.
- The Boy Who Cried Wolf - Tony Ross
- Into the Forest - Anthony Browne
- A Dark, Dark Tale - Ruth Brown
- Oil! Get Off Our Train - John Burningham
- The Dragon Machine - Helen Ward
- How the Whale Became - Ted Hughes
- How the camel got its hump - Justine & Ron Fontes
- How the turtle got its shell - Justine & Ron Fontes
- Traditional tales with a twist e.g. Little Red or the true story of the three little pigs.
- Non-fiction fact books about anything that interests them.

Maths

This term is a very busy one in maths; we will be covering a lot in a very short space of time! We will be focusing on multiplication and division; the children will be able to count in 2s, 5s, 3s and 10s, applying these to simple multiplication and division facts ($5 \times 3 = 15$ so $15 \div 3 = 5$).

The children will also be solving problems and completing challenging reasoning activities. For example in multiplication and division; knowing they can make 7 groups of 5 from 35 blocks and writing $35 \div 5 = 7$ or sharing 40 cherries between 10 people and writing $40 \div 10 = 4$ and solving sums with missing numbers (e.g. $\Delta - 14 = 28$).



At home you can help your child by:

- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.
- Practice our times table song for the 2, 5 and 10 times table - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vq3cDj3Uj3I>
- Play times tables games.
- Practice our three times table song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWxPKnLtnus>
- Recalling your times tables, including missing numbers and the inverse! ($3 \times 4 = 12$ / $12 \div 4 = 3$ / $4 \times __ = 12$).
- Play games involving numbers or logic, such as dominoes, card games, draughts or chess.

We will also be learning about different measurements including money, length and height, capacity, mass and temperature- the children will be expected to be able to read scales in divisions of ones, twos, fives and tens in a practical activity where all numbers on the scale are given. All of these topics will also have a focus of multi-step word problems to challenge the children (e.g. I have £5 and I buy 2 sweets at 50p each. How much change do I have?).

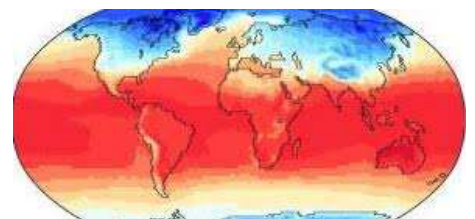


At home you can help your child by:

- Identify, weigh or measure quantities and amounts in the kitchen or in recipes.
- Allow opportunities for counting coins and money e.g. finding amounts or calculating change when shopping.
- Discuss temperatures using thermometers and quiz them with questions such as; what is the difference between two different temperatures.

Topic

The first half term our topic is 'Hot and Cold Places'. The children will be using world maps and globes to locate the seas, oceans, continents and countries. They will compare the UK with South America in terms of climate and weather. They will identify variety of geographical features, such as cliffs, valleys, mountains, rivers and lakes. We will use aerial photos of different cities around the world to identify geographical features and landmarks. They will also use their knowledge to draw their own maps.



The second half term the children will be looking at 'The Great Fire of London'. This will include looking in detail at evidence from history that informs the ways we live today. The children will be learning about the events and what happened as a result, along with learning how our fire fighting has changed and improved over time since the great fire.

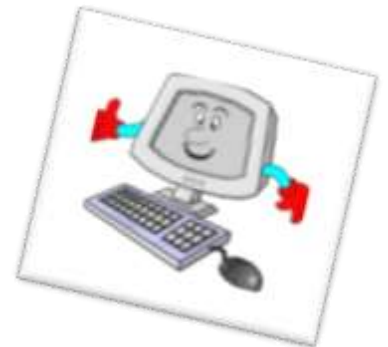


Science

For the first half term we will be focusing on 'Materials'. The children will learn about a range of different materials and study their importance in product creation. The second half term will focus on plants and learn about seed dispersal and we will even grow some of our own!

Computing and ICT

The children will be learning about robot algorithms and our lessons will focus on how to input a set of instructions using programming. They will also learn how to use pictogram software and create their own.



Religious Education

In year 2, we enjoy learning about different religions and beliefs and their importance in our multi-cultural and multi-faith world. We will be learning about the Jewish faith. This enables pupils to think about what might be found in a Jewish home and how these objects link to the Jewish way of life. They will also make links to the Christian faith within their lessons. The second half term's learning will be about the good news that Christians believe Jesus brings. They will think about how the messages in these stories can help them in their everyday lives.

P.E

The children will continue to have their PE sessions which will include gym, running, basketball, hockey and games. It is therefore ESSENTIAL that your child's kit is at school all week. Can you also please NAME your child's kit as it is all very similar and hard to return to its owner with no name inside; this will support yourselves in not having to always replace kit. Your child will require: plain T-shirt and black shorts, plimsolls, trainers and a tracksuit of any colour for outdoor. During the cold winter months can I ask that you send spare socks for outdoor PE and a plastic bag for muddy shoes.



PSHE

This term we are very excited about our PSHE lessons as we have a new whole school scheme to use. The children will develop their emotional literacy, self-regulation of their behaviour, social skills and improve their spiritual development. They will learn about citizenship including learning about: human rights and the rights of the child, democracy, diversity and community and protecting the environment. They will also be learning how to make decisions when it comes to spending, budgeting and saving money and exploring different career choices in our economic wellbeing unit.



Art and DT

In art the children will be looking at human form where they will be exploring how bodies and faces are portrayed in art: looking at works of art, creating collages, drawing portrait, creating a peg figure and collage.

In DT children will explore methods of joining fabric. Design and make a character-based hand puppet using a preferred joining technique, before decorating it.



Music

The year two children enjoy their music lessons and are becoming very good at finding the rhythm and pulse in a variety of songs. They will be learning new songs and comparing them to other songs. They will also learn to accompany the music using instruments. Our first half term will be listening to and learning rock songs and the second half term the children will learn Reggae songs of their own.



More able / Children who require more support

In the year 2 classroom, there are children with a variation of different needs which is supported by differentiated lessons and activities to meet these needs. For the more able children, they will be given problem solving and reasoning activities to deepen their knowledge of the subject and able them to apply it to real life situations. The more able children will also be encouraged to explain their understanding of how they got to an answer, and articulate their learning more. Here are some problem-solving activities to support the more able:

- <http://nrich.maths.org/36>
- <http://nrich.maths.org/55>

Children who are on the SEN register or require more support also have provisions in place for their learning. They may have more teacher support during lesson times, have their progress closely monitored or have the activity adapted to meet their needs. Here are some resources to support these children:

- The children can use this game to practice their number bonds and their times tables! <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Values

As a school we are working hard to promote our ten school values: **self belief, independence, honesty, politeness, creativity, enthusiasm, patience, determination, friendship, and kindness**. We have the most fabulous children at Glenmere and we are very proud of them. Please support us by reminding your child to be polite, say please and thank you and be patient when waiting to speak to adults. Our values for this term are **creativity and enthusiasm**.

We will also promote the British values: **Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance, Individual Liberty**. through assemblies, stories and lessons.

Please remind your child of the values and British values to support them in school when answering questions.

Personal Development

At Glenmere, we know the importance of providing our children with the knowledge, skills, capabilities and resilience which they need for mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing now and in the future. They will learn about the protected characteristics: **age, disability, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender** through our Everyone Welcome curriculum and through our weekly Primary Picture News assemblies.

Reminders

- Each week a dojo message will be sent giving you an overview of the week's learning, ways to help and any updates.
- The school website has a wealth of information about our curriculum to support families
- The school Twitter page keeps you updated with the children's learning and whole school events

Thank you for your valuable and continued support,

Mrs Siddons

Mr Dixon

