Year 2

Term 1 Newsletter

Welcome to Year 2!

From all of us on the Year 2 team, we hope you had a fantastic Summer and are ready for what promises to be a very exciting year!

There are lots of things to look forward to and we are here to support you and the children with their transition into Year 2 - if you have any questions, please let your class teacher know and they will be happy to help.

What will we be learning this term?

Across Term 1, we will be exploring the UK; Throughout the unit, the children will explore the UK's diverse landscapes, weather and agriculture, giving them opportunities to make links with their own experiences. Lots of our learning will be cross-curricular with this topic and we have lots of opportunities for the children to learn about the environment that they live in as well as environments further from home.

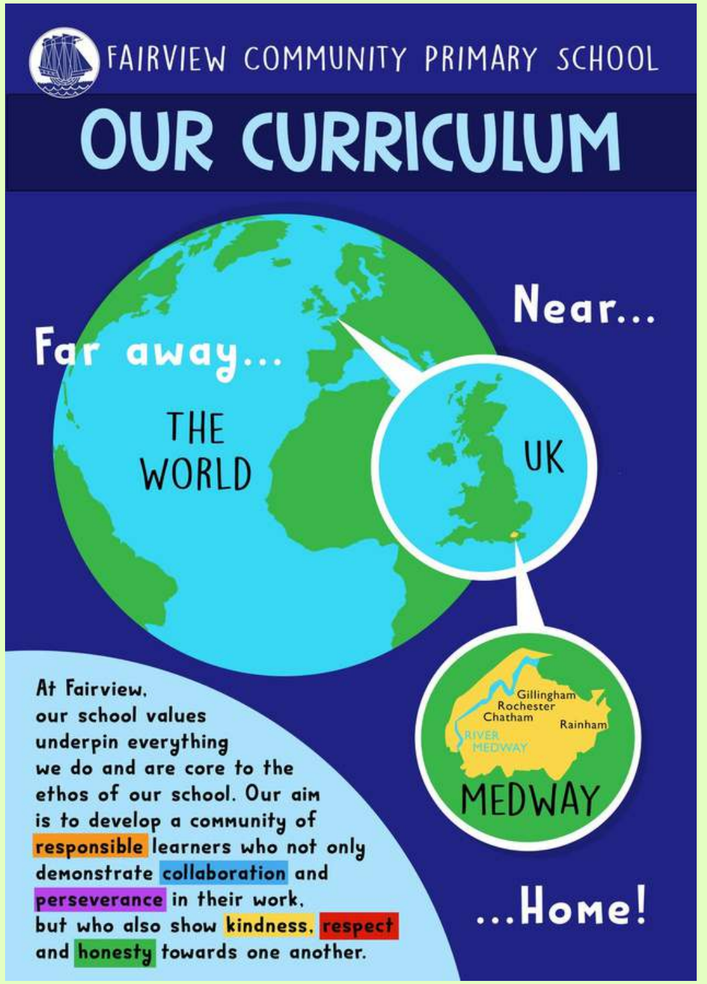
Term 2 Curriculum Overview

Geography

In Geography this term, the children will be introduced to the United Kingdom. They will learn to name, locate and identify the four countries of the UK and their capital cities, as well as the surrounding seas. Through a range of engaging activities, the children will develop their geographical knowledge and begin to build a deeper understanding of the country in which they live.

Links with home, near and far:

Please feel free to visit any local woodlands, farms and coasts. We will be visiting Durham Woods as part of our local area and home.



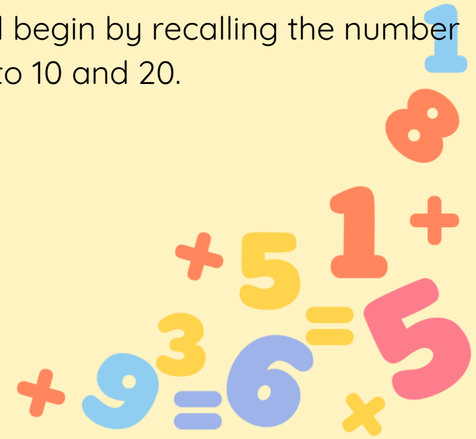
Term 1 Curriculum Overview

English

This term, we will be exploring the fictional story The Journey Home. Throughout the term, the children will develop their persuasive writing skills, use adjectives to make their writing more descriptive, and use iPads to research facts about the animals featured in the story. We will also be focusing on handwriting, with the children beginning to learn and practise cursive handwriting.

Maths

In Maths this term, we will start by looking at place value. We will be recognising numbers up to 100 in different forms i.e. writing them in numerals as well as words, partitioning 2-digit numbers using a part-part whole model and ordering numbers on a number line. Additionally, we will be counting forwards and backwards in different intervals; ones, twos, fives and tens. Towards the end of the term, we will move onto addition and subtraction and will begin by recalling the number bonds to 10 and 20.



Science

In Science this term, we will be exploring the topic 'Animals Including Humans – Growth'. This exciting unit will give the children the opportunity to take part in a range of engaging investigations and experiments. We will begin by exploring what animals and humans need to survive, grow and stay healthy. The children will then learn about the importance of a healthy, balanced diet and consider how they can make healthy choices in their own lives. Finally, we will investigate the effects of exercise on our bodies and discover why being physically active is important for our health and wellbeing.

Term 1 Curriculum Overview

ELS Reading and SPaG

In Year 2, we use an ELS Anthology Book containing a range of carefully selected texts that link closely to our SPaG learning. Through these stories, the children develop their reading fluency, vocabulary and comprehension skills. In SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar), the children learn a variety of spelling patterns, grammar concepts and punctuation rules throughout the year, helping them to become more confident writers and achieve the expectations in English.

Computing

In Computing this term, the children will be introduced to coding using the program 2Go. They will learn how to create simple algorithms to move a screen turtle along different routes, developing their understanding of direction, distance and sequencing. As the unit progresses, the children will use direction keys and units of distance to guide the turtle accurately, write instructions that include multiple steps, and build increasingly complex algorithms to complete longer routes. This unit helps to develop logical thinking, problem-solving skills and an understanding of the basics of computer programming.



Art

This term, we will be exploring our local area by creating a map of our journey to school, identifying and including key landmarks along the way. In Art, the children will develop their printmaking skills by designing a simple pattern using lines and shapes before transferring their design onto a polystyrene printing tile to create their own print.

Term 1 Curriculum Overview

RE

In RE this term, we will be exploring Christianity, with a particular focus on the value of kindness. The children will consider how they can show kindness to others in their everyday lives and why this is an important part of Christian teaching. We will explore Bible stories such as The Good Samaritan and The Paralysed Man to deepen our understanding of Jesus' teachings. Throughout the unit, the children will discuss whether we should always choose kindness, even when it feels difficult.

PSHE

This topic explores the emotions of anger, helping pupils identify its physical signs and understand that it is a normal feeling. It guides pupils to differentiate between healthy and unhealthy ways of expressing anger, emphasising personal safety, self-control, and communication with trusted adults.

PE

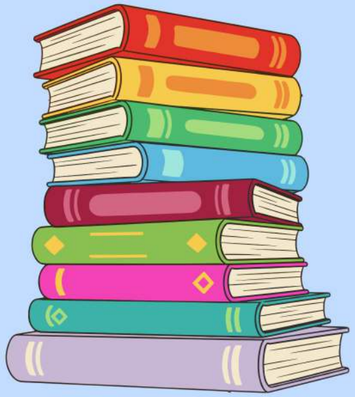
In PE this term, our indoor lessons will focus on gymnastics, where the children will develop their balance, coordination and control as they begin to link different movements together to create short routines. During our outdoor lessons, we will be exploring the unit Attack, Defend and Shoot. Rather than focusing on one specific sport, the children will develop and apply a range of transferable skills, including controlling a ball with their feet, dribbling and bouncing a ball, and passing with increasing accuracy and confidence.

Home Learning

Weekly home learning in Year 2 is set on Friday. We set the following weekly activities:

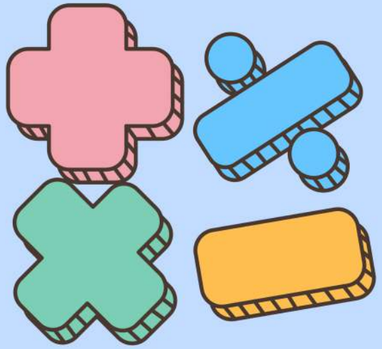
Reading

We ask that the children read at least 4 times per week and recorded this in their reading record. Children will then be awarded a raffle ticket.



Maths

Each week, we will encourage the children to complete 4 rounds on Times Table Rockstars.



Spellings

Each week, the children will be set a different group of words to practice on EdShed.

We ask that the children complete a minimum of 4 games each week in order to practice their spellings in preparation for their weekly spelling test each Friday.

EdShed

School Uniform

We do see that, when children are in full school uniform, there is a noticeable impact on maintaining high standards and a strong sense of belonging to our school community — something we are all proud of.

On PPA days, children should come to school dressed in their PE kit, which is suitable for Performing Arts and Forest School. The only exception to this will be during the winter months, when children will need a change of trousers or waterproof trousers for Forest School. There is no need for any additional alternative clothing.

We will also be reminding children that they should wear only one stud in each ear and that hair accessories should be in school colours.





PE Kit

We are happy for subtle sports logos to be worn, but not prominent branding. We will also not permit items such as Nike Pro shorts or very short, hot pant-style shorts, as these are not an appropriate length for school.





Knowledge Organisers

On the following pages,you will find furtherinformation about what your child will be learning in the foundation subjects this term.



Art & Design



Year 2 - Craft and design

Abstract	Art where the subject doesn't necessarily look like it does in real life
Composition	Putting different elements together in a pleasing way
Curator	Someone who organises amd looks after collections in museums and galleries
Felt	A material made by laying fibres in different directions then squashing them together
Fibre	Threads of wool
Inspired	Feeling very interested and excited by something you have seen
Negative print	Ink will show the background of the tile rather than the drawn lines
Pattern	A design in which shapes, colours or lines are repeated
Stained glass	Colourful, decorative glass that makes a design
View finder	A tool used to help choose a composition

Felt is used to make both artworks and useful objects

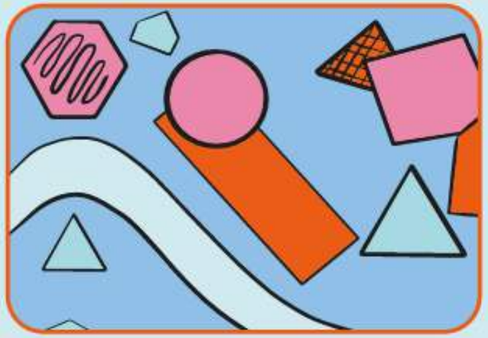




Artists

- Susan Stockwell
- Kim Soon Im
- Josef Albers
- Eduardo Paolozzi
- Matthew Cusick

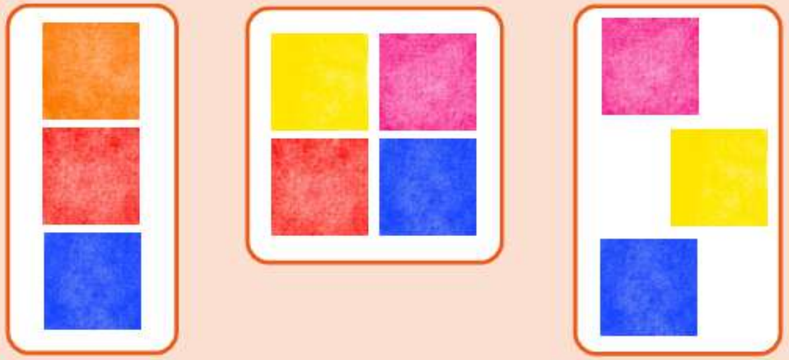
Abstract art doesn't necessarily look like it does in real-life. Artists use shapes, colours and different marks



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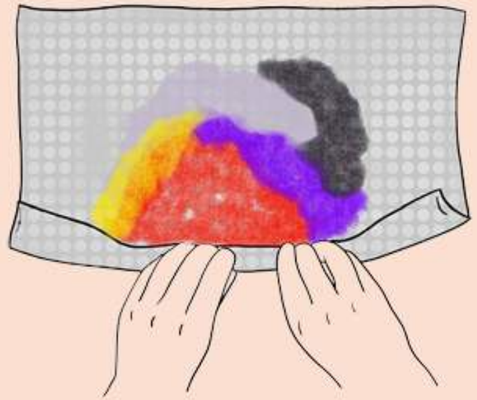
Year 2 - Craft and design

Arranging artwork for display



- Think about your audience
- Try out combinations of work
- Fix your work in position
- Add labels

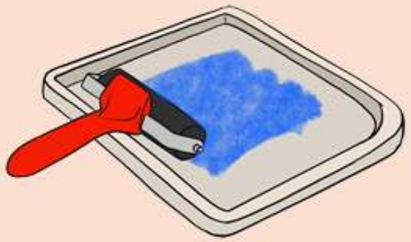
Make felt by laying wool fibres in different directions, adding hot water then rolling and squeezing the felt.





Mix colours by overapping materials

Using a roller for printing



- Not too much ink!
- Roll in different directions.
- Aim for a thin layer all over the roller.
- Listen for a sticky 'hissing' noise!

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Science



Science - Year 2

Animals including humans – Growth

Key Scientific Knowledge:

- To notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults.
- To find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air).
- To describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different food types and hygiene.



Term 1











Key Vocabulary:

nutrition	food that provides nourishment to live and grow
healthy	being well and fit
protein	a food group, consisting of meat, seafood, eggs, nuts and more, which help the body repair cells
carbohydrate	a food group, including rice, bread and pasta, which give the body energy
dairy	a food group, including cheese, milk and yoghurt, which contains calcium to keeps our bones strong
fat	a food group that are important for energy but only needed in small amounts
exercise	activity requiring physical effort, carried out to improve health and fitness
hygiene	the things you can do to keep yourself and your surroundings clean



1. Describe the needs of animals for survival



2. Describe the needs of humans for survival



3. Explore the importance of eating the right food



4. Describe what a healthy, balanced diet looks like



5. Investigate the impact of exercise on our bodies



6. Investigate hygiene

Geography



Year 2: The United Kingdom
Knowledge Organiser: The United Kingdom

Careers connected to this unit: environmental consultant, urban planner, cartographer

Lesson Sequence


1. What do we know about the United Kingdom?


2. What would a Geographer say about England?


3. What would a Geographer say about Northern Ireland?


4. What would a Geographer say about Scotland?


5. What would a Geographer say about Wales?


6. Assessment: What would a Geographer say about the UK?

England



The capital city of England is London. There are 9 regions in England.


London


Cornwall


The Lake District

Wales



Wales is to the west of England. The capital city is Cardiff.

Wales is well-known for its beautiful beaches.


Tenby Beach


Cardiff

Scotland

Scotland is to the north of England. The capital city is Edinburgh.


Edinburgh


Ben Nevis



Scotland has over 790 islands!

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland is separated from the rest of the UK by the Irish Sea.



Belfast is the capital city of Northern Ireland.


The Giant's Causeway


Lough Neagh

The Atlantic Ocean is to the west of Northern Ireland.



The UK is made up of 4 countries.

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