



Half Termly Topic Overview for Parents and Carers

Year 2

Half Term 6

Topic: The Arctic and its Explorers



This half term we will be learning the following things. Here are also some useful hints and tips for helping at home!

	At School	At Home
English	<p>In English, Year Two pupils will be encouraged to learn and write through a range of fiction and non-fiction texts including; Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and The Boy Who Grew Dragons.</p> <p>We will write a short recount, narrative and a persuasive texts this half term.</p> <p>During this half term, we will continue to revisit all reading characters to ensure we are able to answer a broad range of questions.</p> <p>In addition to this, children will be learning a range of spelling rules in line with the National Curriculum.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim to hear your child read at least four times a week. • Read your child a book on a night. Promote a love of reading. We have lots of lovely library books the children can take home. • Please encourage and help children learn their spellings.
Maths	<p>In Maths, the class will continue to recap place value through our morning maths starter. We will continue to practice counting in our 3 times tables.</p> <p>In this half term we will concentrating on measure, time and maths investigations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To count in 3s. • Count forwards and backwards from any number within 100. • Asking children to add three 1-digit numbers (3+2+3)
Science	<p>In Science, pupils will start a new topic all about animals including humans. We will be using this time to learn about what all living things need to survive, matching animals to their offspring and life cycles.</p> <p>We will also be completing two investigations, does your foot size increase as you get older and how does exercise affect our heart rate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about what all living things need to survive (air, water, nutrition) • Talk about offspring and linking animals into animal groups. • Continue to look after your sunflower.
History	<p>In history, the class will be starting a new topic all about Arctic Explores. We will be able to recap what we learnt about Christopher Columbus and then we will identify and learn about other explorers. We will then be able to compare how Arctic explorers have changed from then to now.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss with your children why people explore and how this has changed over time. • Talk about what you may need to go exploring.
Art	<p>In Art, pupils will look at the famous artist, Antony Gormley. We will use his art work to create our own clay sculpture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to children about art work you see and why they use particular colours. • Talk to the children about structures and what they can observe.
DT	<p>In DT, we will be learning about pneumatics. We will use this information to design, create a prototype and make a moving monster mouth using air, tubes and balloons.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to children how somethings need pressure of air (pneumatics) to work or fluid (hydraulics) to work.
Geography	<p>In Geography, we will be looking at 'Our Wonderful World' This topic is packed with lots of information. We will be looking at the continents, rivers, oceans, mountains, pyramids, human and physical features as well as identifying some of the world's wonders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about places you have travelled to (Including the UK). • Talk about our wonderful local area.

PE	<p>In PE, our focus will be throwing and handling a variety of objects. Developing power, agility, coordination and balance. Negotiating obstacles showing increased control.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your children to take part in daily physical exercise.
RE	<p>In RE, pupils will be learning about how we should care about the world and why does it matter. We will start by understanding the vocabulary, 'unique' and 'important'; we will discuss what makes us all important and unique. We will also look at a range of Jesus' teachings including the Good Samaritan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about or listen to some child friendly religious stories. • Ask your child to talk about what they have learnt.
Computer Science and IT	<p>Using Purple Mash, children will continue to develop knowledge learnt in previous terms. This term, pupils will look at a new area of Purple Mash, 2Sequence, we will use this to identify songs and create our own music.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to children about music and what you can hear (drums, chimes, piano) • Continue to discuss how to stay safe online.
Personal, Social and Health Education	<p>In PSHE, pupils will be focusing on the topic 'feelings and attitudes' We will use this topic to identify that all feelings are ok but also identifying how to manage these feelings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to your child about feelings and how we manage them.
Outdoor Education	<p>This term, we will look at shelter and why we may need this if we are outside. We will learn how to make a ridge pole tarp, tarp lean to, log lean to, central pole tipi.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to children about the importance of shelter and safety if outside.
Personal Development	<p>Our school has 6 virtues... kindness, bravery, stickability, coolness, respect and fairness. Each term we focus on a particular virtue – and this term is 'coolness'. We work on being kind to others and treating people and belongings with care! This half term we will be going on a school trip to the Life Centre this will be linked to our current Science topic, 'Animals inc Humans' and our Geography topic, 'Wonderful World.'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child to be a little bit more independent. Can they keep their bedroom tidy? Or help with a task at home? • To remain cool in situations.