



# Half Termly Topic Overview for Parents and Carers

Year 2

Half Term 4

Topic: Awesome Animals!



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; Tadpole's Promise and The Whisperer. We will be writing a narrative and a recount. During this half term, we will continue to look at short stories and answer questions based on 'Rex Retriever' where children learn to skim and scan to find an answer. We will also look at 'Expi the Explorer' to look at 'WOW Words'. With these we will be able to explore the word meanings.</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"> <li>• Aim to hear your child read at least <b>four times</b> a week.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• When reading, discuss the meanings of unfamiliar words.</li> <li>• Continue to help children learn their spellings.</li> </ul>
Maths	<p>In Maths, the class will continue to recap place value through our morning maths starter. We will continue to practice counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. We will be concentrating on fractions, statistics and shape this half term.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to count in 2's, 5's and 10's for this half term.</li> <li>• Count forwards and backwards from any number within 100.</li> <li>• Asking children to mentally add or subtract a 1-digit number from a 2-digit number crossing ten. E.G. <math>27 - 8 =</math></li> </ul>
Science	<p>In Science, pupils will continue with our 'Living things and their habitats' topic. We will explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead and things that have never been alive. We will then identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide the basic needs of different animals and plants. Finally, we will describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals; looking at food chains.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk about things that are alive (tree) dead (leaves) and never alive (computer).</li> <li>• Talk about habitats including microhabitats.</li> </ul>
Geography	<p>In Geography, we will be exploring food. Looking at where it comes from, how it is made and the journey it takes across the UK. We will explore our local area to identify what food shops we have and how diverse they are.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss where food comes from.</li> <li>• Look at different food when shopping.</li> <li>• Talk about foods you may have tried as a child and then an adult.</li> </ul>
Art	<p>In Art, pupils will look at printing with different tools. We will create block prints using given images, use fingers or cut out shapes, finally finishing with matchbox printing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk to children about art work you see and why they use particular colours.</li> <li>• Talk to the children about the art they do at school.</li> </ul>
DT	<p>In DT, we are going to explore our topic, 'Wheels and axles'. We will look at the vehicles around us and how they move using the vocabulary, wheels, axles and chassis. We will then design and make our own vehicle.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk to the children about what they are doing at school and how they know vehicles move.</li> </ul>

PE	<p>In PE, our focus will be, 'Gymnastics'. We will be performing a variety of gymnastic actions showing control.</p> <p>As well as gymnastics, we will be using some of our PE lessons to take part in some 'Primary Paralympic' activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to take part in daily physical exercise.</li> <li>• Watch some 'Paralympic games'. It is on 4<sup>th</sup> March – 13<sup>th</sup> March.</li> </ul>
RE	<p>In RE, pupils will be learning about 'What can we learn from sacred books?' During our topic, we will discuss sacred books for Christians as well as other religions as well as discuss what the word sacred means.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk about or listen to some child friendly religious stories.</li> <li>• Ask your child to talk about what they have learnt.</li> </ul>
Computer Science and IT	<p>Using Purple Mash children will continue to develop their knowledge from Year 1 and will look at how to stay safe on line while using search engines.</p> <p>We will also be programming our Bee Bots to make shapes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the Bee-Bot app from Year 1 to consolidate your child's learning.</li> <li>• Talk to children about how to stay safe while searching online.</li> </ul>
Outdoor education s	<p>Children in Year 2, will learn how to tie a range of knots using a range of rope and twine. We will use the newly learnt skills to join sticks together.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk about the different knots the children have been looking at and learning to tie.</li> </ul>
Personal, Social and Health Education	<p>In PSHE, your child will discuss changes in our life and how to deal with changes. We will also look at how we have changed since we were baby and where babies come from.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk to your child about how people change as they grow.</li> <li>• Discuss that changes can be good and how we could deal with changes.</li> </ul>
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 'stickability'. We work on perseverance, giving things a go, resilience and being motivated to 'get the job done'! Essentially, having a positive mental attitude! This half term we will be going to the library to pick our very own book.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage children to 'stick' at something, E.G. tying their shoelaces or fastening their coat.</li> </ul>