

Maths

Children will continue to build on their knowledge of times tables to increase their fluency in mental arithmetic. They will also be studying multiplication and division; answering a range of problems in these areas. We will also explore shape and the properties of different shapes including symmetry and angles.

Science

Healthy Me – We are continuing with our topic of being healthy and what we need in our bodies to survive. We will also look at different food groups and what makes a healthy meal. This will include a food tasting session where we will experiment with tasting different fruits. We will also look at different foods from around the world and decide whether they are healthy or not.

English

We will be looking at traditional stories from around the world such as Hansel and Gretel and a story from another culture – The Great Kapok Tree. The children will be writing their own stories to describe their journey around the world, focusing on developing their sentence structure, grammar and punctuation.

Music

We will be learning a Reggae song by Joanna Mangona, to explore using pulse, rhythm and pitch to develop our musical talents!

Year 2 – One more step along the world we go

PSHE

Over the half term our focus will be on developing the children's sense of personal identity and self-worth. We will consider and respect the needs and views of others and will learn about different groups and cultures within our community. The children will also learn about the importance of not stereotyping people on the basis of difference.

RE

In our RE lessons we will be asking the question, who is Jesus, a great leader and teacher? The children will begin to understand the idea of being inspired and we will be looking at stories from the bible that show Jesus as an inspirational leader and teacher to Christians all around the world.

Geography

We will be exploring the world's seven continents; Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa, North America, South America and Antarctica and the five great oceans. Using maps, atlases and globes we will identify where in the world we are travelling to in our studies and will be exploring famous landmarks and their significance.

PE

Games – we will be refining our running skills as well as practising striking, throwing and catching.

Dance – children will be creating dances based around the theme 'magical friendships.' They will explore moving at different speeds, levels and dynamics.

Art

Linked to our Geography topic, in art this half term the children will be exploring the patterns and colours of the African landscapes and native tribes.

MFL

We will be learning simple greetings, numbers to 10 and simple phrases in the language of the countries we visit during our topic work.

Computing

We will create and debug simple programs and understand what algorithms are; how they are implemented as programs on digital devices and that programs execute by following precise and unambiguous instructions.

Violet and Indigo Class

Dear Parent/Carer,

With Christmas holidays fast approaching, we hope you are ready for another busy half term! We will be available on the playground at the beginning and end of the school day if you need to speak to us or have any concerns. If you have any queries at any point, please do not hesitate to contact us or make an appointment to meet Mrs McCrae, Miss McSweeney or Ms Deegan.

This half term is going to be a very busy one with our production. Any help you can give your children with learning their lines and songs would be greatly appreciated. Even just listening to them recite these to you would be a great help.

Homework

As always, homework for English and Maths is set every Monday. It is to be returned by the following Monday. If your child has any problems with any part of their homework, they should come to discuss the task with us before Thursday. The homework is set to develop the children's sense of independence and responsibility and as such should be, as much as possible, completed by the children alone. Please remind them of the high standards of presentation that are expected of them as it may need to be repeated. Please feel free to write comments in your child's book as to how you feel they coped with the tasks.

Spellings

Spellings will be set on Monday each week and will be tested on the following Tuesday - the emphasis will be on spelling rules, patterns and strategies related to our work in phonics. Please note that if your child is on the Read Write Inc. programme they may not necessarily be tested on their spellings each week, but they will still be expected to learn their spellings.

Ways in which you can help your child:

- * Check homework books and support your child in completing their homework tasks.
- * Regularly read with your child and discuss books. Please write in the Orange Reading Record when reading at home has been done. If your child reads five times in a week and completes the relevant pages for that week they are rewarded with an all-important merit!
- * Test your child on their spellings – try using some of the games and activities from the spelling workshop
- * Practise counting forwards, backwards in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s whenever you have a few minutes.
- * In school we are using many computer programs, which can be accessed at home e.g. Mathletics and Timetable Rock-stars.

Other

This half term our topic will involve a whistle stop tour around the world, stopping at a country in each continent. If you have any resources (books, toys, games, flags, and general items of interest) that you are happy to loan to us, we would love to 'very carefully' borrow them to refer to throughout our learning.

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

Friday 3 rd January	School closed for children – INSET day
Monday 6 th January	Children back to school
Friday 24 th January	Violet class assembly to parents
Tuesday 11 th February	Year 2 performance at 10am
Wednesday 12 th February	Year 2 performance at 2pm
Friday 14 th February	Last day of half term