



Year 2 Newsletters

Autumn Term



What we have been learning this term:

English – We have had special visit from the real (!) Goldilocks and we have written our own story sequel 'Goldilocks and just one Bear', we enjoyed the 'Jim and the Beanstalk' story and we have written our own versions. Most recently some endangered animals left some footprints in our classroom which led us to a story called 'The Journey Home'.

Reading – We have been focusing on applying our phonics knowledge when reading and spelling words. We have used skills of prediction to think about what we think will happen next in our class stories as well as making inferences about what we think the characters are thinking or feeling.

Maths – We started the year by looking at the place value of numbers and counting forwards and backwards to 100. Then we used these place value skills to help us add and subtract using different strategies. We also spent some time telling the time: o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to.

Science – We have been very busy in science this term! We have spent lots of time looking at different living (or non-living) things and using our scientific skills to identify similarities and differences and

Art – We have been studying the artwork of artist Van Gogh. We noticed how he used dots and different types of lines to create different textures before creating our own drawings of the year 2 garden using these techniques. We really enjoyed sharing these art journeys with you last week!

History – We have been learning about the explorers Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong. We loved comparing their different journeys using a storyboard and thinking about which journey we would have preferred to go on, learning about the food that they would have eaten on the journeys as well as deciding who we thought was the bravest explorer Columbus or Armstrong. Who do you think was the bravest?

Geography – We have been learning about the area of Southampton. We named and located the landmarks in our city and compared them to famous landmarks in London. We also compared the rivers and ports in Southampton with other U.K. cities.

PSHE – We have been learning about our mental health and well-being. We have discussed different emotions and what we can do to help us improve a negative emotion. We discussed our choices and if they were healthy and we discussed our community, and which trusted adults keep us safe.

RE – This term in RE we have been learning about Journeys. We shared our own experiences of journeys that we had been on and why they were special or exciting for us. We read the story of Baboushka's journey to meet Jesus and ended the unit with our 'Question of faith' day where we learnt about the Nativity journeys of Mary and Joseph, the Wise men and the Shepherds.

Computing – We have been learning about digital photography and using the iPads to take portrait and landscape photos as well as look at the different effects you can use to enhance photos.

PE – At the beginning of term we learned some different gymnastic shapes and put them into sequences with balances and different ways of travelling. More recently, we have been learning a dance based on the music of Aladdin.

Music – Christmas play. We have been learning the words and actions to songs for our Nativity performance – 'Baubles'.



This half term's optional home-learning project:

We have learned about endangered animals through our story of '**The Journey Home**'. Can you choose your favourite endangered animal, do some research on it and present your findings however you like – pictures, facts, how we can help their conservation... we cannot wait to see your work!

Next half term, we will be learning...

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Learning</u>
Reading	We will be continuing to practise reading fluently as well as answering inference questions based on our class stories.
Writing	We will write our own stories based on the journey home before reading and exploring bear themed books 'the bear under the stairs' and 'The bear and the piano'.
Maths	We will do some work on 2D and 3D shapes: naming them and recognising their properties such as number of sides, edges, vertices and faces. We will also look at money – we will recognise the value of different coins and find different ways of making amounts.
Science	We will learn more about plants. We will categorise them into groups according to their different features and how they grow. We will also learn more about animals and their habitats.
PSHE	We will learn about our relationships with different people and how we respect peoples' differences as well as understanding when it is ok to say no to our friends.
RE	We will learn about the concept of remembering through finding out about the Hindu religion and their God Vishnu.
History	We will learn about the famous nurse Florence Nightingale and how she changed hospitals and nursing standards. We will also have a visit from a real nurse who will answer our questions.
DT	We will use our DT skills to research, design, build and evaluate wheeled vehicles.
Computing	We will develop our understanding of what information technology is and identify examples in school and beyond
Music	We will continue to learn how to sing and learn different melodies and repeat rhythms as well as listening to and enjoying different types of music.

Key Dates

Friday 12th January: Fire Service Visit

Friday 8th March: Explorer Dome!

