



## How to Help at Home



We appreciate any additional support you can give to your child at home. It is invaluable to their progress and development. The following suggestions may be useful;

- Listen to your child read regularly (daily when possible) and sign their reading diary. Please ensure that reading books and diaries are brought into school everyday. Reading books will be changed as and when needed.
- Every Friday, children will be taught a new spelling rule and given new spellings to learn for a quiz the following week. It helps if children practise these regularly throughout the week. Please ensure that these spelling books are returned on a Friday so new spellings can be added.

### Special Requests

- Please ensure that your child's P.E kit is brought into school at the beginning of the term, including suitable footwear.
- Please ensure your child has a named water bottle in school and this can be refilled throughout the course of the day.
- Could all items of clothing please be labelled, this includes PE kits.
- Forest School will take place every Tuesday. Please ensure that your child has wellingtons and old clothes in school.



## Dates for the Diary



### February

Tuesday 5th February  
 Tuesday 5th February  
 Monday 11th February  
 Tuesday 12th February  
 Wednesday 13th February

Safer Internet Day  
 Valentines Disco  
 Homework progress check  
 Parent Consultations  
 Parent Consultations

### Monday 18th - Friday 22nd February Half Term

Thursday 28th February

NSPCC Speak Out, Say Safe Assemblies

### March

Thursday 7th March  
 Monday 11th March  
 Friday 15th March  
 Monday 1st April  
 Wednesday 20th March

World Book Day  
 Homework progress check  
 Comic Relief  
 Homework progress check  
 Key Stage 1 SATs Parent Workshop (5pm)

### April

Monday 1st April  
 Wednesday 3rd April

Homework progress check  
 Gateshead Dance Festival

### Monday 8th April - Monday 22nd April Easter Holidays

Tuesday 23rd April

Back to school



If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Bainbridge or Miss Cassidy.

# Curriculum Overview



# Year 2



# Spring Term



## Welcome



Welcome back everyone! We're looking forward to another great term. This Curriculum Overview will provide you with key information about our curriculum this term as well some upcoming events.



## English Overview



### Creative Writing

Children will develop their writing skills through a variety of genres including, stories, poems, letter writing and non-chronological reports. They will also be encouraged to check their writing and make any corrections to spelling, grammar and punctuation. Handwriting will be practised each afternoon to ensure that letters are the correct size and in proportion. Children will also develop their joined handwriting.

### SPaG

Our focus this term is to continue to use punctuation accurately and independently with a focus on exclamation marks, question marks and apostrophes. Children will also be encouraged to use a variety of conjunctions in their writing to join two simple sentences. Children will be taught a new spelling rule each week which will be applied to their creative writing.

### Reading

Children will continue to read a variety of genres in class. Our main focus this term will be to develop comprehension skills to ensure that children have a good understanding of what they are reading. Children will also be encouraged to participate in discussions about books they have read.

### Phonics

We will continue to follow our highly successful Read Write Inc Programme.



## Maths Overview



In our lessons, we will continue to follow a mastery approach; this involves children developing their mathematical fluency, using practical resources to support them, as well as developing their reasoning and problem solving skills.

**Number** - Children will develop their understanding of multiplication and we will be learning the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Children will also develop their understanding of division and recognise the relationship with multiplication. Children will learn how to find simple fractions of a shape, length and a set of objects.

**Geometry** - Children will revise the names of common 2-D and 3-D shapes and use mathematical vocabulary to describe the properties of these shapes.

**Statistics** - Children will learn how to read and interpret information from tables and graphs. They will also learn how to create their own bar charts and pictograms.



## Science Overview



Our science work will focus on developing your child's enquiry skills through a range of investigations linked to temperature and the process of melting. They will get the opportunity to use simple scientific equipment such as thermometers. We will also look closely at animals which live in the Arctic and develop an understanding of how these animals are suited to living in such a cold environment. Children will learn about animals living in other habitats and they will develop their understanding of food chains within these habitats.



## Our Curriculum



**RE:** We will continue to learn about Judaism. Children will learn about different aspects of Judaism including where Jewish people go to worship and the importance of different objects to Jewish people. In addition to this, they will develop their understanding of different Jewish festivals throughout the year.

**Geography/History:** In Geography, children will develop a range of skills including using maps to locate the hottest and coldest places in the world as well as using basic geographical vocabulary to describe the physical features of a place. These skills will be developed through the context of The Arctic. After half-term in our History lessons, children will develop a range of skills. This will include using a range of sources to answer questions about the past and identifying differences between ways of life at different times. These skills will be developed through the context of Florence Nightingale and her work.

**Art / Music / DT:** In Art, we will be exploring how to work with different types of paint. Children will learn how to mix colours to create a painting of the Northern Lights. Children will record their artwork in sketchbooks. In our Music lessons, children will be introduced to famous pieces to stimulate composition. They will interpret a storyboard with sound effects, and develop their own ideas using voices and percussion. In our DT lessons, children will go through the process of designing, making and evaluating their work.

**Computing:** In the first half-term, children will use a programme called 2Paint a Picture to produce paintings based on the work of famous artists. During the second half-term, children will learn what effective internet searching is.

**P.E:** We will be developing our dance skills through our Happy Feet sessions and children will learn a sequence of movements to compose a dance. Our other PE session will be gymnastics where children will learn how to put together a sequence of movements on the floor.



## Creative Homework



Our Creative Homework gives children greater ownership over their learning at home and encourages creativity and independence. We actively encourage parents/carers to support their child with these homework tasks and we look forward to sharing and celebrating the work returned to school. We expect that children will earn a minimum of 15 points every half-term. There will continue to be regular progress checks over a half-term.



## Out and About



We will be inviting a nurse into school to talk to the children about nursing now compared to the past. We will inform you of any other Educational Visits we plan to have this term.