

## Science

In Science, we will be looking at living things and their habitats. We will be exploring and comparing the differences between things that are living, dead and things that have never been alive. We will identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited. We will identify a variety of plants and animals in their habitats and describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals using a food chain.



## Art/Design Technology

In Art, we will be creating a collaborative textile piece of work inspired by the oceans and artist, Vanessa Barragão. We will change and modify threads and fabrics, apply different decorations and use natural dyes to explore colour and texture.

In Design Technology, we will be making our very own moving pictures. We will explore levers, sliders and pivots to create a thank you card to Martin Mere. We will be following the design, make and evaluate structure to think like designers!

## RE

In RE, the children will be focusing on the religion of Hindu Dharma. We will be exploring what devotion means and how we can show this to different people or things. We will look at the Hindu deities and their symbolism. We will explore Hindu Dharma worship of gods and goddesses and take a closer look inside a Mandir.

*If you read three times a week or more at home, you will be entered into our weekly reading raffle.*

## Geography

In Geography, we will be looking at hot and cold areas of the world. We will question why it is hottest at the equator and coldest at the poles. We will recap our knowledge of continents and oceans by learning some fun songs.

After half term, we will compare the village of Chembakolli to Euxton. We will use pictures and maps to explore similarities and differences. How are their homes different? Is their school day the same as ours? We will think about why Fairtrade is important to the people who live there.

## PE

PE will continue to take place on a Wednesday. The children will have two lessons of PE on this day. Please ensure that your child arrives to school in their PE kit on this days.



## Music

Moods and Pictures

We will be exploring how songs and music can communicate different moods and emotions. We will be creating descriptive sounds for a simple soundscape.

## Homework

As well as times tables, children will be given spellings to learn each week at home. We will also be teaching discrete spelling lessons in school related to specific patterns. Spellings will be sent home every Friday and will then be tested the following Friday in school unless stated otherwise. They can also be accessed on Spelling Shed. By the end of Year 2, there are specific spelling rules and common exception words that the children need to be able to spell. These were given to you at Parents' Evening.

## Reading

It would be great if you could listen to your child read as frequently as possible at home, so that they become fluent and confident readers. This also supports their learning in other areas of the curriculum, particularly writing. Please sign your child's planner each time they have read and note the page number. We aim to change books every Monday and Thursday! ☺

# Share in our Learning

Happy New Year from the Year 2 team!

We hope that you have had a fantastic break and are looking forward to the busy half term ahead. The children have done fantastically well to slot back into routine and are already working really hard.

## Learning Powers

Children will be encouraged throughout the year to think about how each of these powers can help them to become even better learners!

- Creativity
- Curiosity
- Resilience
- Flexibility
- Independence
- Self-belief
- Go-getter
- Co-operation

The children have already shown great independence during their first writing task of 2025!



## English

Our unit title for this term is Brilliant Birds. We will be creating non-chronological reports about a penguin, a puffin or an eagle as well as creating our own voiceover for a clip about owls. Watch out David Attenborough! We will be looking closely at 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark' by Jill Tomlinson and writing our very own chapter. We will finish this unit by creating our very own persuasive leaflet for Martin Mere. By the end of this unit, we will be bird experts. Be prepared to have lots of little bird watchers on your hands!



## Maths

The children have readjusted back into the 'Maths No Problem!' style of thinking. During this term, we will be looking at multiplication, division, length, mass, temperature and pictograms. We're going to be extremely busy mathematicians!

Please continue to support your child at home by revisiting column addition and subtraction at home. Please start to look closely at different clocks with the children as this will prepare them for their learning later in the term.

## Times tables

Times tables will be tested each week on a Monday afternoon. Children will be given six seconds for each question, so that they focus on rapid recall as opposed to using their fingers to work out the answers. We will begin with our 5x tables for this half-term. In the second half term, we will be focusing on mixed 2, 5 and 10x tables to ensure they haven't forgotten any that we have learnt previously! Scores will be shared in planners after each quiz. By the end of Year 2, the expectation is that children know their times table and related division facts for 2, 5 and 10 X tables. We have noticed a huge improvement in the children's recall this past term so a huge thank you to you all for helping at home. Please continue to use TTRS to encourage rapid recall!