

# Autumn Term Year 2

## Maths

In Year 2 maths, following the White Rose scheme, pupils build a strong understanding of place value, working with numbers up to 100 and learning to compare, order, and represent them. They develop fluency in addition and subtraction, using number bonds, mental strategies, and written methods to solve problems. In the shape unit, pupils explore 2D and 3D shapes, learning to identify, describe, and sort them based on their properties.

## English

This term, children will use high-quality picture books linked to our Travel and Transport theme to inspire story writing. Through journeys by air, land, and sea, they will explore narrative structure with a clear beginning, middle, and end. Children will practise writing in the past tense using capital letters and full stops, supported by drama, oral storytelling, and shared writing. Each week will culminate in an independent piece of writing that builds confidence and creativity.

## Science

In Year 2 science, pupils explore materials by identifying and comparing everyday objects based on their properties, such as hardness, flexibility, and absorbency. They investigate how materials can change shape through actions like bending, twisting, stretching and squashing, and begin to consider which materials are best suited for specific purposes. This helps pupils understand how the properties of materials make them suitable for different uses.

## RE

In Year 2 RE, the pupils explore why light is a powerful symbol in Christianity, Judaism, and Hinduism, helping pupils understand how festivals like Christmas, Hanukkah, and Diwali use light to represent hope, guidance, and good overcoming evil.

In Autumn 2, children learn about the Nativity story and what it teaches Christians about Jesus' identity, such as being a saviour and a gift from God, deepening their understanding of Christian beliefs and celebrations.

## Autumn Term Theme

# Travel and Transport

This term, children will explore how travel and transport have changed over time through the lives of significant explorers and events. They will investigate the enquiry question 'How have explorers changed the world?' and make cross-curricular links with English, geography, and art to deepen their understanding of journeys, maps, and global discovery.

## Art & DT

For Autumn 1, pupils develop drawing skills by using lines, shapes, and textures to create observational and imaginative work. They begin to evaluate their drawings and take inspiration from artists to improve their techniques.

For Autumn 2, Year 2 DT, pupils explore mechanisms by designing and making a model fire truck. They learn how wheels and axles work, selecting appropriate materials and tools to create a functional vehicle. Pupils develop their problem-solving skills through testing and improving their designs.

## Music

In Year 2 music, pupils follow the Charanga scheme through Units 1 and 2, where they develop performance skills by playing tuned percussion and learning to sing with control and expression. They also build their listening and appraisal skills by exploring a range of musical styles, helping them understand rhythm, pitch, and musical structure.

## PE

In Autumn 1, pupils develop control and coordination through ball skills, including throwing, catching, rolling, bouncing, and kicking, while building teamwork and preparing for later games.

In Autumn 2 indoor PE, pupils develop core skills in shape, movement, balance, and jumping through activities that improve coordination, control, and body awareness. They explore different ways to move and balance safely, linking actions together with fluency and confidence.

## Humanities

In History, the children will explore how travel and transport have changed over time, learning about different forms of transport from the past and present and considering how these changes have affected people's lives and journeys.

## Computing

In Autumn term, In Year 2, pupils follow the Teach Computing curriculum, beginning with IT Around Us, where they explore how digital technology is used in everyday life and consider how to use it responsibly. In Digital Photography, pupils learn to take and edit photographs, developing their understanding of digital media and how images can be used to communicate ideas.

## PSHE

In Year 2, pupils begin the *myHappyMind* curriculum with Meet Your Brain, where they learn about key parts of the brain and how these help them manage emotions, focus, and make good choices. They then move on to Celebrate, exploring their unique character strengths and learning how recognising these in themselves and others builds self-esteem and positive relationships.

# Spring Term Year 2

## Maths

In Spring term Year 2, pupils learn to recognise and use money, including counting coins and notes to make totals and give change. They build their understanding of multiplication and division through equal groups, arrays, and repeated addition. In measurement, they explore length and height, comparing and measuring using standard units, and extend this to mass, capacity, and temperature, using scales and thermometers to solve practical problems.

## English

This term, children will explore stories and journeys inspired by our Harlow and Beyond theme. Using picture books linked to places, travel, and climate, they will write stories and recounts with clear structure and description. Children will build confidence in using past tense, expanded noun phrases, and varied sentence starters. Each week's book will lead to an independent writing outcome, supported by drama, mapping, and cross-curricular learning in geography and science.

## Science

In Year 2 science, pupils study **Animals, including humans and Plants** during the spring term. They learn about the basic needs of animals for survival, including food, water and shelter, and understand the importance of nutrition and exercise. Pupils also explore simple food chains. The children then move on into plants unit, where pupils develop their understanding of how plants grow and what they need to stay healthy.

## RE

In Year 2, for Spring RE helps children explore how Christians show they belong to their faith community. Pupils learn about key practices such as baptism, attending church, celebrating Christian festivals, and showing love and service to others, gaining an understanding of the values, symbols, and traditions that unite Christians as a faith family.

## Spring Term Theme

### Harlow and Beyond

This term, children revisit the countries of the UK and build on their understanding of the four nations and their capital cities. They then journey from familiar surroundings in Harlow to the hot landscapes of Kenya, comparing climate, homes, and daily life. Learning is brought to life through cross-curricular links in geography, English, and science.

## PSHE

In Year 2, pupils continue the *myHappymind* curriculum with **Appreciate**, where they learn the importance of gratitude and how practising it regularly can support their wellbeing. In **Relate**, they build on their understanding of positive relationships by learning how to listen actively, show empathy, and resolve simple conflicts, helping them to connect with others in a kind and respectful way.

## Humanities

In Year 2 Spring term geography, pupils compare life in Harlow and Kenya, exploring differences in climate, landscapes, homes, and daily routines to deepen their understanding of human and physical geography.

## Music

In Year 2 music, pupils continue with the Charanga scheme through Units 3 and 4, further developing their skills in playing tuned percussion with greater accuracy and confidence. In Unit 3, they refine listening and appraisal techniques by exploring different pieces of music. In Unit 4, pupils are introduced to composition, creating simple rhythmic and melodic patterns, encouraging creativity and a deeper understanding of musical structure.

## PE

For Spring 1 PE, pupils develop fundamental skills through football, focusing on kicking, attacking, and defending. They learn to control the ball, pass accurately, and understand basic tactics like finding space and marking opponents, helping to build teamwork and game awareness. For Spring 2 PE, pupils build their understanding of teamwork by working cooperatively in games and activities, learning to communicate, share, and support others. They also explore health and fitness, developing awareness of how exercise affects the body and why keeping active is important for overall wellbeing.

## Art & DT

In Spring 1 art, pupils explore painting by experimenting with colour mixing, brush techniques, and different types of paint. They learn to create texture and effect, and use painting to express ideas, often taking inspiration from the work of well-known artists. In Spring 2, DT, pupils explore textiles by designing and making a simple pouch. They learn basic sewing skills such as running stitch and how to join fabric pieces. Pupils also plan and decorate their designs, developing creativity, fine motor skills, and an understanding of how fabric products are made.

## Computing

In Year 2 computing, pupils follow the Teach Computing curriculum by exploring Programming A: Robot Algorithms, where they learn to create and follow simple instructions to control robots, developing sequencing and problem-solving skills. In Data and Information: Pictograms, pupils collect, organise, and present data using pictograms, helping them to understand how information can be represented and interpreted digitally.

# Summer Term Year 2

## Maths

In Summer term, Year 2 pupils learn to recognise, find, and compare fractions of shapes and quantities. They build confidence telling the time to the nearest five minutes and begin to understand hours, minutes, and seconds. In statistics, pupils collect, organise, and interpret data using tally charts, pictograms, and block diagrams. They also explore position and direction, using language such as left, right, clockwise, and anti-clockwise to describe movements and turns.

## English

This term, children will use engaging historical texts to explore the events of the Great Fire of London. Through diary entries, eyewitness narratives, and creative retellings, they will write in the past tense with clear structure and vivid description. Cross-curricular links with history and art will support their understanding of 1666 London and help bring their writing to life through storytelling, role play, and historical enquiry.

## Science

In Year 2 science, pupils explore living things and their habitats by identifying things that are living, dead, or have never been alive. They learn how animals and plants are suited to their environments and how different habitats provide for their basic needs. Pupils also study famous scientists, discovering how their work has helped us understand the natural world, inspiring curiosity and scientific thinking.

## RE

In Summer 1, pupils explore how Jewish people celebrate Passover (Pesach), including the traditions, symbolism, and stories that shape the festival.

In Summer 2 they consider why people have different views about the idea of God, developing respectful understanding of a range of beliefs and how personal experiences can shape perspectives.

## Summer Term Theme

# Great Fire of London

This term, children travel back to 1666 to explore the events of the Great Fire of London. They will learn how the fire started, why it spread, and how the city was rebuilt. Learning is brought to life through cross-curricular links in English, history, and art.

## PSHE

In Summer term PSHE, pupils complete the *myHappymind* curriculum with the Engage module, where they learn how to set simple goals and understand the importance of perseverance and practice. They explore how using their strengths and staying focused can help them overcome challenges, building resilience and confidence in their learning and everyday life.

## Computing

In Summer term computing, following the Teach Computing scheme, pupils explore Creating Media: Digital Music, where they use technology to compose, edit, and play simple musical patterns. They also engage in Programming B: Programming Quizzes, designing and building basic interactive quizzes using coding blocks, helping them to develop logical thinking and an understanding of how digital programs work.

## Music

In Year 2 music, pupils continue with the Charanga scheme through Units 5 and 6, focusing on composition. They use tuned percussion and other classroom instruments to create and perform simple rhythms and melodies. Pupils learn to structure their ideas, work collaboratively, and refine their music, developing creativity and confidence in musical expression.

## Art & DT

In Summer 1 art, pupils explore printing by experimenting with patterns, textures, and repeated designs using various tools and materials. They learn simple techniques such as block printing and stamping, and take inspiration from artists to create their own printed artwork.

For Summer 2, In Year 2 DT, pupils design and build a model playground, learning how to create strong, stable free-standing structures. They explore joining techniques and use problem-solving skills to plan and construct their designs.

## Humanities

In Summer 1 History, pupils explore the Great Fire of London by asking "Could it have been avoided?" They investigate the events, causes, and impact of the fire, using historical sources to consider how different choices might have changed the outcome. In Summer 2, Geography, the children will explore weather around the world, learning about different weather patterns and climates and how weather affects people's lives in different places.

## PE

In Summer term, In Year 2 PE, pupils develop key physical skills through striking, running, and jumping activities. They practise striking with hands and equipment, improve their running technique for speed and control, and explore different types of jumps. These skills help build coordination, strength, and confidence in preparation for team games and athletics.

For Summer 2, pupils explore dance by learning to move with control, rhythm, and expression. They create and perform simple sequences, using different shapes, levels, and movements to respond to music and themes, helping to develop creativity, coordination, and confidence.