



# Gusford Primary School Curriculum Information

## Year 2 – Autumn 1

Kindness

Honesty

Respect

Confidence

Responsibility

### English

In English many of us will be focussing on our Phonics; becoming more fluent with segmenting, blending and reading words by sight each day.

In our writing, we will use the well known tale Little Red Riding Hood to inspire our creative writing. In our grammar lessons, we will be focussing on the consistent use of punctuation and using conjunctions to add extra clauses to our sentences. We will then look at an instructional text called 'How to make a bird feeder' and focus on the skills it takes to write instructions.

### Maths

In Year 2, children deepen their understanding of **place value** and **partitioning numbers**, key areas of the maths curriculum. They learn that numbers are made up of tens and ones, for example, 42 is 4 tens and 2 ones. Using practical resources like base ten blocks, number lines, and place value charts, children build strong number sense. They practise partitioning numbers in different ways (e.g.  $42 = 40 + 2$  or  $30 + 12$ ) to help with mental maths and problem-solving. These skills are essential for understanding addition, subtraction, and number patterns. Children also compare and order numbers up to 100 and use symbols like  $<$ ,  $>$  and  $=$ . Developing confidence in place value supports all areas of maths learning in Year 2.

### Science

In Year 2 science, children learn about **living things and their habitats** as part of the national curriculum. They explore how animals and plants live in different places that meet their needs. Pupils investigate a variety of habitats, such as woodlands, ponds, and gardens, and identify the living things found there. They learn about simple food chains and the roles of producers, consumers, and predators. Children also sort things into living, dead, or never alive. This topic helps develop observation, classification, and reasoning skills, encouraging curiosity and care for the natural world. Outdoor learning and hands-on activities make this unit fun and meaningful for young learners.

### What can you do at home?

Read, read and read some more! This will help your child to becoming increasingly fluent and give them creative ideas. Could you build something at home and then write instructions on how you did it?

### What can you do out and about?

When out and about talk about or look for animals in their habitats and discuss why they might like to live there. Discuss the different types of technology you will find in a shop and ask your adult if you can help scan the items.

## History

In Year 2 history, children learn about great explorers who traveled to new places a long time ago. They discover why people explored unknown lands and what tools they used, like maps and ships. Pupils explore stories of adventure and how these journeys helped people learn about the world. This unit develops understanding of the past, helps children ask questions, and shows how exploration changed history. It links to the curriculum by teaching about significant historical events and people.

## Art

In Year 2 Art, children develop their pencil and drawing skills by exploring lines, shapes, and textures. They learn to hold a pencil correctly and use it to sketch, shade, and add detail. Pupils practise drawing from observation and imagination, helping them express ideas visually. These activities build fine motor skills and creativity. Children also look at artists' work to inspire their own drawings and grow in confidence as young artists.

## RE

Teshuvah means "repentance" in Hebrew. At Jewish New Year, called Rosh Hashanah, families think about how they've behaved. They say sorry for mistakes, try to do better, and make peace with others. It's a time to start fresh, be kind, and grow into better people for the year ahead.

## PSHE

The Zones of Regulation is a program used in primary schools to help children understand and manage their emotions. It teaches kids to recognize different feelings by sorting them into four color-coded zones: blue, green, yellow, and red. Children learn strategies to stay in the green zone, where they feel calm and ready to learn. This helps improve self-control, focus, and social skills, creating a positive and supportive classroom environment for everyone.

## Spanish

*Anita and Osito* is a story about a little girl named Anita and her teddy bear. Anita takes Osito everywhere. They play together, explore, and learn new things. The story shows the importance of friendship, imagination, and caring. Children enjoy Anita and Osito's adventures because they are fun and easy to understand. It's a perfect story for young children who are just beginning to read.

## Computing

In computing we will be learning about computers and their important parts. The **monitor** shows pictures and words on the screen. The **keyboard** lets you type letters and numbers. The **mouse** helps you click and move things. Inside the computer, the **CPU** is like the brain—it tells the computer what to do. The **hard drive** stores all your files and programs. **Speakers** let you hear sound, and **ports** let you plug

## Music

**Tony Chestnut** is a fun action song that helps children learn body parts through music and movement. The song uses clever wordplay—like "toe-knee" for "Tony"—to match body actions with lyrics. Kids love singing along while touching their toes, knees, chest, and more. It's great for building coordination, listening skills, and confidence. *Tony Chestnut* is a favorite in primary music lessons because it's catchy, silly, and gets everyone involved and moving!

## PE

In Year 2 PE, children take part in target games and gymnastics to build important skills. In target games, they practise aiming, throwing, and rolling to hit a target, which helps with coordination and control. In gymnastics, they explore movement by balancing, jumping, rolling, and creating simple sequences. These activities help develop strength, flexibility, teamwork, and confidence while making PE fun and active for all children in a safe environment.