

Curriculum Newsletter

Katherines Primary Academy – Autumn Term 2026

We are Year 2: Billy Monger



Welcome to Year 2

We would like to warmly welcome you back to the start of a new academic year; it is lovely to meet all of the children and to start to get to know them! We are sure it will be a very productive year for every child and look forward to working closely with you and watching them grow and learn over this time!

This year, children will continue to develop their reading with daily reading lessons, and explore new texts including fiction and non-fiction; as well as continue to master number facts and counting patterns in maths lessons.

Home reading

Please continue to read regularly with your children at home and record this in their Home School Reading Diary. Every time they read, they will gain a tick on their card in the back of the diary and when it is full they will be rewarded for their effort with a prize from the Headteacher. Your child should bring in their Home School book every day. We will be changing books regularly, however they are welcome to bring their own book from home too or choose a reading for pleasure book from school.

P.E.

As athletes, there will be a focus on improving children's fundamental skills including running, jumping and skipping. Dance, net and ball activities and target games will also be covered in subsequent units. Some lessons will be taught by a specialist PE coach.

P.E. days are **Wednesday** and **Friday**s. Children should wear their PE kit to school on these days. Earrings and other items of jewellery must be removed for PE and long hair should be tied back.

English

As writers, we will start by reading the text 'Five Minutes Peace' by Jill Murphy, and retelling the story. Next, children will work on creating their own version of the text by changing characters and events. Later in the term, writing activities will be based on the story 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Browne. The children will also read and write riddles as part of their poetry unit. We will continue with regular handwriting practice to ensure that year 2 learn to join their letters in a neat script. Spelling and grammar lessons will also occur weekly.

Maths

As mathematicians, we will begin by focussing on understanding the place value of 2 digit numbers before moving on to finding related number facts. Children will extend their knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes by exploring their properties. Lessons will then concentrate on adding and subtracting two 2 digit numbers. Year 2 will continue to have a weekly mental maths test and daily fluency practice.

Topics we will be studying this term...

History - Great Fire of London

Geography - My local area

Science - Everyday materials

Computing- Technology all around us

Art - Map it out

D.T. - Puppets

R&W - Why is light an important symbol for Christians, Hindus and Jews?

RSE- My Happy Mind, Healthy Me

Music- Pulse, rhythm and pitch

PE- Fundamentals, Dance, Target Games, Net and Wall

Computing

As technicians, the children will learn what IT is, in school and in the outside world. Following this, they will learn about ways that IT helps us. Linking to Online Safety, they will consider rules for using IT responsibly.

Science

In science, the children will study everyday materials. They will consider what objects around us are made of and why certain materials are chosen for their use. There will be opportunities for predicting, practical investigations and forming conclusions.

History

As historians this term in History, the children will be studying The Great Fire of London. They will explore how and where the fire started, what happened during the Great Fire, and the impact it had on London and its people.

Geography

As geographers, the children will explore their local area of Harlow. Learning will include walking around the area to identify human and physical features. The children will create simple maps and practise using directional language.

Art/ DT

This half term in Art, the children will be studying the topic 'Map it out'. This unit focuses on teaching children to explore and create maps through various art forms, including drawing, felt making, printmaking, and designing stained glass. In DT lessons, Year 2 will design and make hand puppets by learning to join fabric in different ways.

RWV/ RSE

As theologians, we will learn why light is an important symbol for Christians, Hindus and Jews. In RSE the focus will be on recognising feelings as well as building positive relationships.

Notes ...

In Year 2, homework will be set online. There will be no homework books. Our homework focus this year is **consistently reading five times a week** at home as well as accessing:

Numbots - please aim for 3x per week www.numbots.com

Spelling Shed - weekly www.edshed.com

Logins are now in the Home School book for all three websites.

Children should practise their spellings online, ready for a spelling test on a **Friday**.

Please ensure your child has a water bottle in school every day -filled **only** with water.

Thank you for your continued support, it is much appreciated! Mrs Huylin