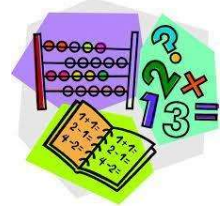


# Year 2 Spring 2026 Newsletter

## Happy New Year!

Firstly, a huge thank you for all the lovely cards and gifts received for Christmas. You are all so kind and your support and generosity is very much appreciated. Thank you! We now look forward to a busy, fun-filled term ahead.



Our topics for this term are as follows:

## Numeracy

In our measurement topics, we will be learning about money, length and height and mass, capacity and temperature.

We will learn how to recognise and use symbols for pounds (£) and pence (p), find different combinations of coins that equal the same amounts, solve simple problems in a practical context involving addition and subtraction of money of the same unit, including giving change. We will choose and use appropriate standard units to estimate and measure length/height in any direction (m/cm); mass (kg/g); temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ); capacity (litres/ml) to the nearest appropriate unit and compare and order lengths, mass, volume/capacity and record the results using  $>$ ,  $<$  and  $=$ .

In our multiplication and division topics, we will recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables, including recognising odd and even numbers. We will calculate mathematical statements for multiplication and division within the multiplication tables and write them using the multiplication ( $\times$ ), division ( $\div$ ) and equals ( $=$ ) signs. We will also solve problems involving multiplication and division, using materials, arrays, repeated addition, mental methods and multiplication and division facts, showing that the multiplication of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and division of one number by another cannot.

Please continue to practise your 2, 5 & 10 times tables and access TT Rockstars at home when you can. We may set occasional challenges and rock battles on here as homework tasks.

## Literacy

In our literacy lessons, we will be learning how to use:

- co-ordinating and sub-ordinating conjunctions;
- the progressive form of verbs in the past and present tense;
- a range of sentence starters (time openers);
- different sentence types - statements, questions, commands and exclamations;
- correct punctuation including capital letters, full stops, exclamation marks, question marks and apostrophes.



We will be reading and writing recounts, character descriptions, fantasy stories, non-chronological reports, stories with familiar settings and stories by the same author. Our key texts for writing this term are Dougal's Deep-Sea Diary, The Barnabus Project, Katie Morag Delivers the Mail, Katie Morag and the Two Grandmothers and The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch.



## Phonics and Spellings

Please see the spelling overview, which details the spelling rules that we will focus on in our phonics sessions this term. This includes the spelling words to be learnt for each weekly test.

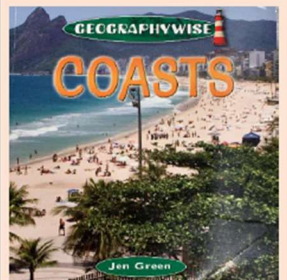
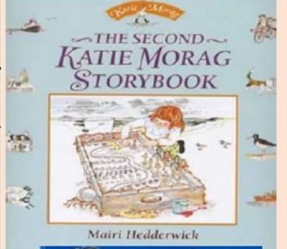
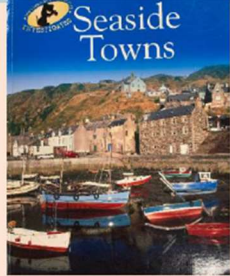


## Geography - What Adventures Can We Have by the Sea?

In our geography topic, we will be comparing our local area with the Isle of Coll, a very small island in Scotland. We will be using geographical vocabulary to describe and compare the key physical and human features of the two places.



### Y2 What adventures can you have by the sea?

Subject Specific Vocabulary		Sticky Knowledge	Exciting books
coast	The place where the land meets the sea.	Locate Isle of Coll on a map and label its key physical features.  Know similarities and differences using human and physical features of a small area of the UK (Isle of Coll/High Crompton).  Devise a simple map using basic symbols in a key.  Know and use aerial photographs.	
island	A piece of land surrounded by water.		
harbour	An area of water next to the coast, often protected by the sea by a thick wall, where ships and boats can shelter.		
aerial	A bird's eye view. A view taken from above.		
beach	An area of sand or pebbles along a coast.		
port	A town by the sea that has a harbour..		
cliff	A vertical or steep natural wall of rock.		
hill	A naturally raised piece of land that is smaller than a mountain.	<b>Interesting facts</b>  The Isle of Coll has basking sharks swimming in its seas.  It has sand dunes reaching up to 35 m.  There are only 200 people living on the Isle of Coll.  In Summer it is possible to spot whales and Dolphins in the Seas surrounding the island.	 
town	A place with buildings that is bigger than a village but smaller than a city.		
village	A small community in the countryside, smaller than a town but bigger than a hamlet.		
key	A group of symbols that explains something on a map.		
symbol	Symbols can be drawings, lines, colours or shortened words found on a map.		
environment	The place (air, water, land) in where we live are.		
physical feature	Something found naturally in the environment.		
human feature	Something that a human has put in the environment.		



## Music - Story time and Animals

In our music lessons this term, we will be exploring sounds and learning about dynamics, texture, structure and pitch. We will learn and sing songs and use tuned and untuned instruments to demonstrate our understanding.



## RSHE

In this term, we will explore the different types of relationships we have online and discuss how to ensure we all stay safe from harm while using these platforms. We will also learn about health, including mental health; learn some first aid and find out when and how to call the emergency services

## Science - What Lives in a habitat like this? What's Amazing about Animals?

We are continuing our biology units on animals including humans, learning about living things and their habitats. We will then be learning how animals have offspring that grow into adults and finding out about their survival needs. We will also explore the significance of nutrition, exercise and hygiene.



### Year 2: What lives in a habitat like this?

Living things and their environment Knowledge Mat (Biology)

Subject specific vocabulary		Sticky knowledge	Interesting facts
<b>living processes</b>	All the things that living things do e.g. move, breathe, sense, grow, make young, get rid of waste, get energy from food.	<p><b>Know the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive.</b></p> <p><b>Know that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other.</b></p> <p><b>Know, and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats.</b></p> <p><b>Know and describe how animals get their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food.</b></p> <p>Compare animals in familiar habitats with animals found in less familiar habitats, for example, on the seashore, in woodland, in the ocean, in the rainforest.</p> <p>Know how to sort and classify things according to whether they are living, dead or were never alive.</p> <p>Know how to construct a simple food chain that includes humans (e.g. grass, cow, human).</p>	Living things depend on each other, for example, plants can be food and shelter for animals.
<b>living</b>	Things that are living do all the life processes.		<p><b>Food chains.</b> The arrows mean 'is eaten by'.</p>
<b>dead</b>	Things that were once living/did all the life processes but don't now.		
<b>never living</b>	Things that never did life processes e.g. metal, plastic, rock.		<p><b>Examples of habitats:</b></p>
<b>Habitat</b>	The natural place where something lives. A habitat provides living things with everything it needs to survive e.g. food, shelter, water.		<p><b>Examples of microhabitats:</b></p>
<b>microhabitat</b>	A very small habitat e.g. woodlice under stones, logs or leaves. Minibeasts live in microhabitats.		
<b>depend</b>	Many living things in a habitat depend on each other. This means they need each other for different things.		
<b>survive</b>	To stay alive.		
<b>food chain</b>	It shows how an animal gets its food. Food chains show how living things depend on each other.		

**Interesting Book**

living

dead

never living



### Year 2: What's amazing about animals?

Animals (including humans) Knowledge Mat (Biology)

Subject specific vocabulary		Interesting Book	Interesting facts
<b>adult</b>	A fully grown animal.	<p><b>Sticky knowledge</b></p> <p><b>The basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival are water, food and air.</b></p> <p><b>It is important for humans to exercise, eat the right amounts of different types of food, and be clean and hygienic.</b></p> <p><b>Know that animals (including humans) reproduce and have offspring that grow into adults. There are stages of growth in between.</b></p>	The world's oldest person in 2020 was called Bob W eight on, who reached the age of 112 years old. He was British.
<b>life cycle</b>	The changes that a living thing goes through...how life begins, grows, changes, reproduces and eventually dies.		It takes about 21 days for a hen egg to hatch and produce a chick.
<b>offspring</b>	The young or babies of animals or humans.		An elephant has to wait almost 2 years (95 weeks) until its baby will be born.
<b>reproduce</b>	When living things make a new living thing of the same kind.		The African Driver Ant can produce up to 4 million eggs every 25 days! That's a LOT of ants!
<b>survival</b>	Being able to live and do well throughout life.		The tallest person ever grew to 2.72m tall!
<b>diet</b>	The food and water that a living thing needs to survive.		One of the best whole-body exercises you can do is swimming.
<b>exercise</b>	A physical activity to keep the body fit.		
<b>hygiene</b>	Being clean to stay healthy and to stop disease/illness spreading. Being free from dirt and germs.		

**Eatwell Guide**

To grow into a healthy adult, we must eat the right types of food in the right amount and exercise.

Water, lower fat milk, sugar-free drinks including tea and coffee all count.

6-8 a day

Eat less often and in small amounts.

**LIFE CYCLE OF A CHICKEN**

## RE - What is the 'Good News' that Christians Say Jesus Brings (part 2)? Why Does Easter Matter to Christians?

In our good news topic, we will continue to explore the concept of 'Gospel' and the good news of forgiveness, peace and love that Christians believe Jesus brings. When we learn about Easter, we will explore the concepts of God, Incarnation, Gospel and Salvation and examine where they fit in the big story of the Bible and the key events of Holy Week and Easter.



### What is the 'good news' that Christians say Jesus brings? – Part 2

#### Year Two Knowledge Organiser

#### Wonderful words

**Christians:** people who follow Christianity and believe Jesus is the Saviour who healed the rift between humanity and God.

**Jesus:** a very important person for Christians; God in the flesh

**Matthew:** a tax collector who Jesus called to follow him and who left his job as a tax collector.

**Fishermen:** people who earn a living through fishing

**Disciples:** a follower of Jesus

**Tax Collector:** a person who collects money on behalf of the Romans at the time of Jesus.

**Peace:** freedom from conflict

**Forgiveness:** when someone is stopped being blamed or punished for something they have done

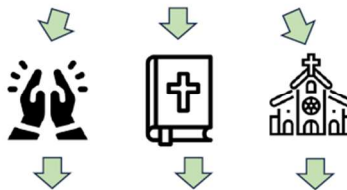
**Apostles:** the twelve followers of Jesus who went with him during his earthly ministry

**Prayer:** an act of communication with God

#### So how does it all work?



Jesus showed Love, Peace, and Forgiveness



Christians teach Love, Peace and Forgiveness today.

All icons are used free of charge from Noun Project. Individual artist credit is given on the following slide.

#### Important information

Many people have used the teaching about love, forgiveness and peace which Jesus taught as the basis for expressing themselves through art, music, story and poetry.

The good news that Jesus brought was to love everyone and this is something that Christians try to do during their everyday life. They follow the example of how Jesus asked Matthew, the tax collector to follow him, even though everyone hated the tax collectors. Jesus also chose ordinary men, like the fishermen to be world changers for him and to spread his message to forgive and be forgiven.

As Jesus chose ordinary people and people who were hated to be his followers this shows that his message is for everyone who wants to follow it.

Jesus also showed love, peace and forgiveness was for everyone when he healed the ten lepers, who were seen as outcasts in society at the time.

Jesus' apostles spread this message whilst Jesus was on earth and after his death and the disciples of Jesus continue to spread this message now in what they say and what they do.

During his lifetime Jesus gave his disciples the Lord's Prayer as a way of saying sorry, saying please and saying thank you to God. This prayer is very special for Christians as it is the prayer that Jesus taught.

### Why does Easter matter to Christians?

#### Year Two Knowledge Organiser

#### Wonderful words

**God:** the all loving and powerful being that Christians believe created the world and everything in it

**Salvation:** being saved or rescued so that humans are no longer separated from God

**Saviour:** Jesus came to save or rescue people e.g., by showing them how to live

**Resurrection:** Jesus' return to life after dying

**Eternal Life:** the belief that through Jesus' death Christians can go to Heaven to be with God for eternity.

**Secular:** anything that is not connected with religion or religious worldviews

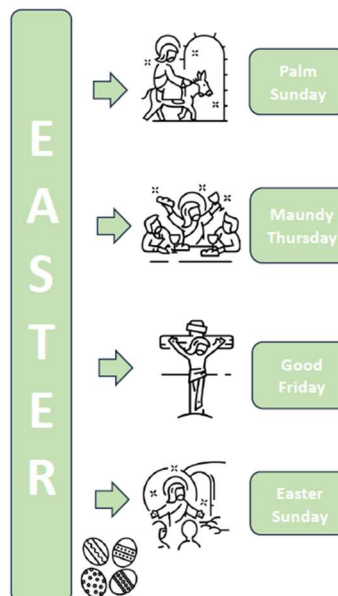
**Easter:** the Christian festival which remembers the resurrection of Jesus.

**Worship:** to praise and follow God

**Good Friday:** the Friday of Holy Week, the day on which Jesus was crucified.

**Religious:** believing in a religion

#### So how does it all work?



All icons are used free of charge from Noun Project. Individual artist credit is given on the following slide.

#### Important information

Easter is the most important celebration for Christians during the year. It is a time for them to reflect on the events in the life of Jesus from Palm through to Easter Sunday.

Christians remember how through his death and resurrection Jesus healed the rift between humanity and God caused by sin. Christians refer to Jesus as Saviour as he saved them from being away from God and brought them salvation so that when they die, they can have eternal life in heaven with God.

Easter can be celebrated in many ways, religious and secular. During Easter week, sometimes called Holy Week, many Christians will feel a lot of different emotions, they will feel happy on Palm Sunday when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. They may feel sad and upset on Good Friday as they remember this as the day Jesus died.

In Easter Sunday they will feel very happy as they remember the resurrection of Jesus when he defeated death and came back to life with a promise of eternal life.

Other people will focus on the secular celebration of Easter by giving Easter Eggs and looking out for the Easter Bunny. Even though this is the same time of year it can be celebrated very differently, although Christians may also give Easter Eggs but will always think about the death and resurrection of Jesus as the eggs symbolize the new life Jesus has brought as the Saviour.



## Art/DT

Our art unit Life in colour, will focus on painting and mixed media. We will be exploring colour mixing and creating textures using different tools. We will learn collage techniques and experiment with materials to develop an understanding of colour, texture and composition in art. Later in the term, in our DT lessons, we will be learning about different joining techniques in order to make our own puppets.

### Mixing secondary colours

Primary colours

	+		=	
	+		=	
	+		=	

### Painting tools can make textures

	+		=	
	+		=	
	+		=	

	+		=	
	+		=	

### Collage

Arranging materials and sticking them to a surface.

### Romare Bearden

1911-1988

- ▶ His work explored memories, everyday life and the idea that people should be treated equally.
- ▶ He used patterned paper in his collages.
- ▶ He layered other materials on top of the collage paper.

### Overlap materials

## Computing

In our computing lessons, we will be creating digital art pieces and patterns in the style of the Arts and Crafts movement and then will then be moving onto learning about Spreadsheets. We will explore what a spreadsheet is and how to navigate one, how to edit and improve a spreadsheet, how to create and interpret block diagrams from data and then use our learning about spreadsheets to help us complete a project.



### Year 2: Creating Pictures

purple  
mash



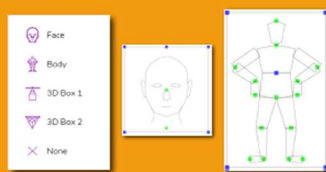
#### Themes

- Creating digital art
- Using 2Paint a Picture to emulate famous artistic styles digitally
- Selecting tools to achieve specific effects when creating digital art
- Composing a digital art portfolio

#### Paint Templates



#### Outline Guides



#### Palette Tools



#### Eraser



#### Dilute Colour



#### Paint Fill



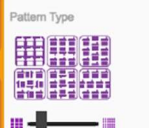
#### Stroke Width



#### Pattern Design



#### Pattern type

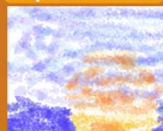


#### Pattern Size



#### Paint Styles

##### Impressionism



##### Pointillism



##### De Stijl Piet Mondrian



##### Arts and Crafts Morris



rotational  
symmetry

vertical

parallel

horizontal



### Year 2: Spreadsheets

purple  
mash



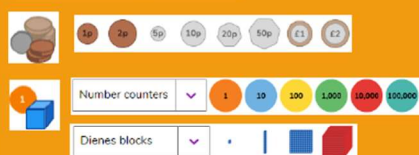
#### Themes

- Navigating a spreadsheet
- Organising data
- Simple calculations
- Calculate tools
- Block diagrams

#### Data

Information that you collect and record.

#### Coins and Apparatus



#### Styles



cell colour



border colour

font style

30px



Nunito



#### Spreadsheet



#### Tools



move



lock



equal to



count



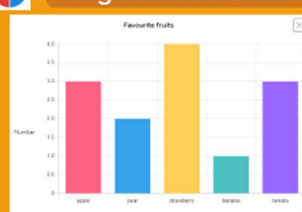
speak

#### Table

Fruit	Number of likes
apple	5
pear	2
strawberry	2
banana	1
tomato	3



#### Diagrams and Charts



## PE

### Tuesday - Games

### Thursday - Dance

In games, we will be focusing on developing skills using our feet. We will be practising dribbling a ball, keeping the ball under control and away from defenders and passing the ball to a target. Once again, we are lucky to have Mr Brierley from Oldham Community Leisure joining us each Tuesday to deliver our PE lessons. After February half term, our games lessons will focus on ball skills using rackets and bats.

In our dance units we will respond to stimulus using a range of different, controlled movements showing expression. In our first unit - **Mr. Candy's Sweet Shop**, we will learn how to control and co-ordinate our bodies to perform movements that represent being in a sweet shop. Then after half term we will start our second unit - **Water**, when we will move with control, respond to the rhythm and move in relation to music that represents the ebb and flow of water.

*Please ensure that your child has a PE kit in school on these days. Correct kit is being closely monitored this term and your child may not be able to participate if kit is incorrect or missing on a regular basis.*

### Homework

**Compulsory homework will continue to consist of daily reading, practice of weekly spellings, and a minimum of 30 minutes a week spent on TT Rockstars.** Home learning will be set each week on School Spider and will be monitored by teachers. Additional guidance and information for homework tasks will be given as necessary but if you are unsure, please do ask.

Spelling tests will continue to take place on **Thursdays**. Please make sure your child has their spelling book in school on this day.

Reading at home continues to be the most important homework your child can do. Please try to read with your child each day and record this in their green reading record book.



As always, if you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch. **We are here to help!** It would be appreciated if parents could see us **before 8.50am** rather than as children are entering the classroom in the morning so that we can focus on settling the children into class and starting the day promptly. Alternatively, please come **after 3.35pm** when all the children have been safely dismissed by a member of staff after school.

**Thank you for your continuing support with your child's learning.**

Mrs. Thomas