

King's Oak Primary School - Year 2 - Spring Term 2023 - 2024

The Year 2 Team:

Teachers: Ms Fossey and Mrs Chandler

Teaching Assistants: Mr Moore and Mrs Pintor



Theme: Comparing Places in the World

As readers and writers we will be reading and writing about Paddington by Michael Bond and The Tear Thief by Carol Ann Duffy in the first half of the Spring Term. We will be writing witness statements, letters, recipes and developing our use of descriptive language. In our guided reading sessions, we will focus on finding information in a text, ordering events and inference. In the second half of the Spring Term, we will be reading Dear Fairy Godmother by Michael Rosen and Nick Sharratt and two versions of the story of Jack and the Beanstalk: Jack and the Beanstalk by Carol Ottolenghi and Jack and the Baked Beanstalk by Colin Stimpson. Our writing focus will be letter and diary writing and we will be further developing elements of Year 2 grammar in our writing: using adjectives, adverbs and conjunctions. In our guided reading sessions, we will focus on comparing texts and characters' feelings.

As geographers we will be building on our knowledge of the world around us. We will be exploring Peru (home of Paddington Bear) and comparing an area of Peru to New Malden, considering physical and human features. We will also be learning more about the Earth, climate zones and why different parts of the Earth are hot and cold and comparing the different temperature and rainfall patterns in different places.

As historians we will be focusing on explorers, comparing a famous explorer from the past (Christopher Columbus) with a current day explorer (astronaut Mae Jemison). We will learn about these significant individuals by using the skills of historical enquiry, using historical vocabulary and we will compare different aspects of life in these different periods of time.

As scientists we will be learning about habitats and plants. In the first half of the spring term, we will be exploring living things and their habitats, including polar, desert and tropical as well as microhabitats in the school grounds. Linked to our work on Jack and the Beanstalk in English, in the second half of the term, we will learn about how plants grow by growing our own beans and investigating the ideal conditions to grow cress. We will develop our skills in scientific enquiry through observation and setting up a simple comparative test.

Every Week

PE: Wednesday afternoon (indoor) and Thursday afternoon (outdoor)

Library: Tuesday afternoon (half an hour slot)

Trips and Visits

6th March - Boys' football tournament at Richmond and Kew FC

15th March - Trip to London Wetlands

*** 19th April (summer term) Polka Theatre -**

Three Billy Goats Gruff

Whole School Dates

Half-term: w/b 12th February

Parents Evenings: 4th March and 7th March

28th March- End of spring term

The spring term is always a busy one for Year 2 and one in which you will see results of all of the children's hard work since the start of Year 2. This term, we will be beginning to look out at the world around us, learning about and comparing different places in the world. We will do this in our geography topic linked to Peru and our science topic on habitats. Similarly, in history, we will be comparing explorers then and now and in English, when we read Jack and the Beanstalk, we will compare two versions of the same story - one traditional and one with a modern twist.

Big Question: How and why are places in the world different?

As mathematicians we will be continuing with our daily Mastering Number fluency sessions where we practise our mental arithmetic and reasoning skills. In our main maths lessons, we will be completing our unit on multiplication, focusing on the 2, 5 and 10 times tables before moving onto learning more about the concept of division (as grouping and sharing), again in the context of the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. After half term, we will be learning about shape - 2D and 3D - describing and comparing the properties of different shapes. Then we will build on previous addition and subtraction knowledge to work with two digit numbers. The children will be introduced to a number of different strategies for these operations, primarily focusing on mental methods and using known facts.

Across the curriculum

As musicians we will be using the Charanga Scheme to learn to perform two songs, one from the rock genre and one from the reggae genre. Lessons include the opportunity to listen to and appraise other songs in the genre, warm up games and improvisation as well as learning to perform the songs.

As artists we will be exploring how we can represent fruit using different media: drawing, charcoal, oil pastels and watercolour. We will also be using clay to make fruit sculptures.

As computing specialists we will be learning word processing skills and practising them using Google documents and Google slides. We will be practising touch typing (link on Google Classroom). In the second half of the term, we will be building on our programming skills including programming a familiar story and animation of an animal.

As design technologists we will design and build our own vehicles. We will generate ideas, plan, design and evaluate a vehicle with wheels, axles and axle holders.

As sports enthusiasts we will be learning to follow a dance sequence, leading to creating one with a partner. We will be further developing our gymnastic skills. We will be developing our throwing and catching skills using different equipment and throws and developing our skills with bats and balls - sending, intercepting and striking.

As explorers of faiths and beliefs we will be investigating what makes some places sacred to believers and considering the gospel as good news and teaching Christians what Jesus wanted people to be like.

Our PSHE curriculum covers Citizenship and Economic Wellbeing. Topics covered will include: learning about rules outside school and caring for the school and local environment. Economic Wellbeing will involve learning about financial literacy, including how adults get money, wants and needs and using skills and talents.