

Year 2 Autumn Half Term 2 Parents' Leaflet

The aim of our new curriculum is to link much of the work around a theme, which makes learning more exciting and purposeful.

Science—Materials

This half term we will continue to develop the skills needed for investigating. The children will be supported in planning their own investigations and will make predictions, observe and come to conclusions. Our focus will be on 'materials' and will link this into our learning about the Titanic as we explore which materials float and sink and try and explain why.

Music

As we are approaching Christmas our music focus will mainly be based around the nativity. Children will be given the opportunity to sing and play instruments.

English

We begin this half term by exploring the fiction book, *The Snail and the Whale* by Julia Donaldson. After reading around the seaside setting of the book the children will be taught the skills needed to write their own story. We will then focus on reading and writing reports. The children will recognise the key features of this non-fiction text type then use the familiar structure to write their own non-chronological reports about the sinking of the Titanic. We will finish the half term by exploring and writing some Christmas poetry.

Religious Education

We will continue to think about whether we can tell what people are thinking by the way that they look. We are looking forward to welcoming a visitor from the Sikh faith.

This half term our topic is:

Oh, what a day!

As we continue to look at important historical events in Britain we will this term move on to learn about the sinking of the Titanic.

History

The sinking of the Titanic is a key event in our history and the children will have the opportunity to:

- Learn more about what the country was like during 1912 and who our monarch was.
- We will use our enquiring skills to explore sources focusing on the ship itself.
- We will once again consider what history has taught us and how we have acted upon this great disaster.

Mathematics

Our focus this half term is to ensure that all children are able to recall important facts quickly to help them calculate. This is predominantly taught through our daily Big maths sessions. We will also focus on learning to multiply through repeated addition and drawing arrays. Time will be spent introducing division as the inverse of multiplication. We will apply our ability to add and subtract when working with money. We will make links to the Titanic as we progress through the term by looking at the number of 1st class passengers, 2nd class passenger and 3rd class Passengers on-board and compare this to the number of lifeboats.

Our Values

Tolerance is our focus. As part of a whole class we will discuss the meaning of the word, share examples of others showing tolerance around school and talk about its importance in the wider world.

How you can help?

- Continue to read as often as possible with your children. Also encourage them to widen the range of books they read to include more non-fiction and poetry.
- Support your children with their homework.
- Make accurate spelling a focus. Make up games e.g. how many words can they spell in two minutes?

Art and design technology

To continue to develop the children's understanding of the world, the oceans and the continents they will make their own watery collage using a range of materials and a variety of shades.

Computing

We will be learning how to programme. We will input simple instructions to make a character move. When learning how to stay safe through E-safety we will be learning about different types of forums such as Email.