

Year 2 Autumn Half Term 2 Parent/Carer Leaflet

Science - Materials

This half term we will continue to look at different materials and their properties. We will look at how some materials can be twisted, bent or squished and we will look at how some materials suit their jobs better than others. We will carry out an experiment to see which material makes the best raincoat and why.

English

We are starting this half term by looking at the story "The Red Prince" by Charlie Roscoe and Tom Clobosy Cole. The children will be learning about conjunctions (*e.g. because, when, and*) and expanded noun phrases (*e.g. The white, soft snow*). At the end of this unit, they will be retelling the story in their own words using the features we have been learning about.

Religious Education

We will be looking at how different religions celebrate weddings and looking at some important dates for some religions such as Diwali and the Nativity story.

This half term our topic is:
Poles Apart
What is the difference between the Arctic and Antarctica?

Geography

Our geography topic is 'Poles Apart' and we will be learning all about Antarctica and the Arctic. Some things we will be learning during this topic are:

- Where the UK is on a map, on a globe and in an atlas.
- Where the equator is and its significance.
- How they can predict the climate of a country depending on where it is in relation to the poles and the equator.
- How to use the 4 points of a compass (North, South, East, West).

Mathematics

As well as continuing to practise number and place value and counting in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s, the children will be focusing on some new Maths areas this half term:

- Adding and subtracting. This will be taught both by using base ten and learning how to draw it to help us solve problems and also by solving the problems on a number line.

Talk lessons

A focus for us this year is developing children's talk skills. Every Monday, your child will have a talk lesson in which they will learn to be effective communicators. Some of the things we are working on are:

- Taking turns when talking.
- Listening well and responding to what others say.
- Speaking loudly and clearly enough to be heard.

How you can help

- Continue to read as much as possible at home with your child (we recommend at least 3 times a week).
- Encourage them to widen the range of books they read to include non-fiction and poetry as well as fiction stories.
- **Make accurate spelling a focus.** Make up games e.g. how many words can they spell in two minutes?
- When completing weekly homework, ensure your child is trying to **write neatly** and is correctly using **full stops and capital letters**.

Creative Carousel

We are focusing on sewing this half term and the children will be designing and making their own Christmas tree decoration to bring home at the end of the half term!