



Year 2 Curriculum letter Spring 2025



First Half Term, Weeks 1 and 2



We hope you had a great holiday.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their second half term in Year 2 and fully embraced all of the learning that has taken place. The topic of 'Bright Lights, Big City' engaged them as they became immersed in learning about The Great Fire of London. Having the opportunity to research London, both in the present and the past, really **Engaged** the children with the topic. They also really enjoyed making their own bread. After talking about their experiences of London, the children **Developed** their historical skills throughout the topic by researching significant individuals during that time such as Samuel Pepys. In science they developed their understanding of a range of materials, focusing on how the properties of materials make them suitable for purposes and everyday life. During the **Innovate** stage of the topic the children co-operated in small groups choosing how they wanted to demonstrate what they had learnt across the half term. They were able to share key facts such as how and why the fire spread quickly through London in 1666.

For the final stage of the topic, **Express**; the children enjoyed sharing their learning based on The Great Fire of London with children in Year 1 and each other. The learning included a variety of posters, PowerPoint presentations and videos.

The pictures show just some of the learning in Year 2 last half term. Remember to look on the school website and social media for regular updates of learning in Year 2.



'Moon Zoom'



Weeks 1 and 2 Engage

In the 'Engage stage', we will introduce our new topic: Moon Zoom, immersing the children in information about Space and creating our own model of the Solar System using papier mache.

Engage
Science
Art
History



The children will begin by recording their current knowledge and understanding about Space, using a circle map. They will discuss what they would like to find out about Space and how



they can find the answers to these questions. The children will look at recent events in Space, such as astronaut Matthew Dominick recording a demonstration of what happens to ketchup in a 0 gravity environment.



Using both audio visual representations in the form of video clips and physical movement the children will

explore how the planets orbit the Sun, including how their positioning affects things such as the length of time a planet takes to orbit the Sun.

The children will explore the technique of papier mache, and co-operate as a year group to use the technique to create 3D structures. They will use pre-selected internet sites and books to discover the colours needed to add colour and detail to the planets so they are an accurate representation of the Solar System.

The children will appreciate art by the artist Robert Rauschenberg and will explore ways to create art in the style of Robert Rauschenberg, through the use of different media.

In 1969, NASA invited Rauschenberg to witness the launch of Apollo 11. In response to this landmark event, Rauschenberg created his *Stoned Moon Series* of lithographs. This involved combining diagrams and other images from NASA's archives with his own drawings and handwritten text. Throughout his career Robert Rauschenberg used his platform as an artist to increase knowledge about global issues and to raise money for many causes and organisations; taking responsibility for the welfare of life on Earth was one of Rauschenberg's key causes.

English

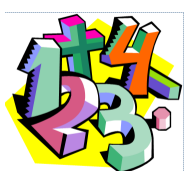


The children will explore non-fiction books, reviewing the features of non-fiction texts and will then record facts they have found. They will read non-fiction books about Space, think about what they have read, and then change it into their own words to create pages for their own book about Space. As a class we will explore the book 'Man on the Moon' by Simon Bartram. Firstly the children will retell the story orally, and then they will create a story map of the main events. The children will explore the use of question and exclamation sentences. They will write a character description of Bob and an alien.










Daily phonic sessions will help the children to read information texts and information online to support their learning, and expand their vocabulary.

Maths



Mental Maths – The children will reinforce and review their knowledge of counting accurately. They will count forwards and backwards to at least 100 in different steps such as 2, 5 and 10.

	<p>Multiplication - They will develop their understanding of the times tables, starting with 2s, 5s and 10s, then extending to other multiplies. The children will use skip-counting and drawing of images to help develop their understanding.</p>	
<p>Physical Education</p> 	<p>The children will be exploring different types of jump, including jumping forwards and backwards and side to side, with rhythm. Jumping from two feet to two feet with a quarter turn in one direction. To develop their gym skills the children will explore different ways of travelling on their feet.</p> <p>The children will continue to develop their gross motor skills by completing a range of control and agility challenges with equipment outside.</p>	
<p>Earth Awareness</p> 	<p>Sports Premium funding will enable the children to take part in Earth Awareness, one afternoon each week. The Earth Awareness sessions will be led by the Year 2 adults. The children will be observing and drawing the birds in the school environment. They will learn the names and characteristics of each bird to help them identify each one correctly.</p>	
<p>Religious Education</p> 	<p>The children will discuss their knowledge of Christian festivals, reviewing the Christmas story and investigating the importance of Epiphany for Christians. They will review and discuss what they know about Judaism, the Jewish community, Jewish festivals and Jewish places of worship.</p>	
<p>RHE (Relationship & Health Education)</p> 	<p>The children will review the class rules and why they are necessary. They will remind each other of how to be an amazing learner across Year 2 and discuss how to be successful. As a class we will discuss the term "Setting a Goal" and relate it to setting challenges. The children will then set a goal that they would like to achieve throughout the term.</p>	
<p>Music</p> 	<p>The children will listen to a range of high-quality recorded music and revise the terms: dynamics, pitch, tempo and timbre. They will be appraising Space themed music such as The Planets Suite by Holst. They will listen to the music and think about how it makes them feel.</p> <p>The children will be introduced to the term 'structure' in relation to composition and will compose simple music in groups using instruments.</p>	
<p>Wanted!</p> 	<p>Please send in any empty boxes you have collected, for junk modelling this term. Cereal boxes are ideal, along with a selection of smaller boxes to join to the cereal boxes.</p>	
<p>Dates for the term</p> 	<p>Thursday, 16th January 9.00am – 10.15am and 1.45pm - 3.00pm</p> <p>Friday, 17th January 10.30am – 11.45am</p> <p>Monday, 20th January 1.45pm - 3.00pm</p> <p>Space-Read Learning Together Session - please see separate letter.</p> <p>Monday, 10th February 9.00am – 11.30am Making Space Vehicles</p> <p>Monday, 10th February 1.30pm – 3.00pm Making Space Vehicles</p> <p>Volunteers will be welcomed to either the morning or the afternoon session. We will be using a range of resources to build the Space Vehicles in the morning and using the afternoon session to add decoration and finishing touches, such as paint to the vehicles.</p> <p>Tuesday, 11th February 3.20pm – 3.40pm Moon Zoom sharing session</p> <p>Wednesday, 12th February 3.20pm – 3.40pm Moon Zoom sharing session</p> <p>Any family member or friend can come to share learning with your child. Please come to whichever session is most suitable for you. There is no need to sign up, just come along!</p>	

Thursday, 13th February - Open Evening – booking will be available online the week before to sign up for an appointment time. An email will be sent with the booking link on **Thursday, 6th February**.

Phonic Bug books



Phonics Bug

The children really enjoy using this online resource in school to enhance their learning and it would be beneficial for them to access this tool at home to further enhance their learning.

Phonic Bug books are set each week and are set based on your child's reading colour. This means the text will be accessible and questions will be targeted based on your child's understanding. This is an invaluable resource as it really enhances children's love and understanding of reading a variety of books both fiction and non-fiction.

Please remember to share these books with your child each week.

(<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login>).

Remember your child's log in details are stuck in the back of their blue home school communication book. New ebooks will be allocated each Friday.

Learning at Home

- Regular reading at home is vital to sustain progress and liaising with staff through the Home/School Contact book is invaluable to your child. Children are encouraged to read each night and change the reading book each morning. They are also encouraged to make their own comments in the communication book about their reading, where they can.
- Share the school library book that your child chooses each week. Children will have the opportunity to change their library book every Wednesday. Please make sure your child returns their book each week so they can choose a new one.
- Please share your child's weekly learning at home with them. The learning is given to the children on a Friday and should be completed and returned to school by the following Wednesday each week.

Other ideas you might like to try.....

- Visit your local library and search for Space-themed books. Read and talk with an adult about the books you find.
- With an adult, search the web for fascinating Space facts and make your own Space Fact Book.
- Ask an adult to help you find the names of all the people who have walked on the Moon. There are 12 of them!
- Use an app to find constellations, planets and stars in the night sky. Which constellation is the easiest to recognise? Which star is the brightest?
- With an adult, explore the Hubble Telescope website. Check out those amazing gallery images!
- Imagine you're an astronaut completing different Space missions and make a mini book about your learning.
- Make a telescope from junk cardboard materials and sticky tape. Just before bed time use your telescope to look up at the stars. Can you see any wonderful star patterns in the sky? Draw the patterns of stars that you have spotted. Take the pattern into school to share with your class.
- With an adult you could learn about the I.S.S. (International Space Station).
- Can you make up your own Space song or rhyme? Teach the song to your class and perform it as a Space choir.



Year Two Team