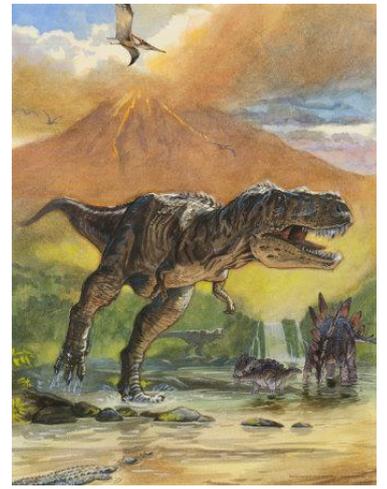


Spring 2

Year 2 Curriculum News

Dinosaurs



Our topic this half term is **Dinosaurs**. Some of our work will be linked to this topic; some will be work on key skills.

Please see below for more details about each subject that we teach.

English

Phonics- The children who did not pass the phonics screening check in Year 1 are continuing with the phonics programme, and they will re-sit the check in June. Your child's teacher would have told you what sounds they need to work on at Parents' Evening.

Reading- Children will bring home reading books at their colour level so that you can help them practise at home. To encourage this we have half termly reading awards. This half term it is the Frog Award! In school we hear them read as individuals, looking at their reading targets to improve their skills. Each Friday we have a **Book Talk** session. All the children read a book in a group that is suitable for their level and then they will talk about it and answer questions about it, sometimes using inference skills to answer tricky questions. This term we are introducing reading comprehension booklets to these sessions. We will be teaching the children how to retrieve information from texts and how to use this information to answer questions. To help your child at home please refer to their coloured reading targets which give you guidance as to what they are learning on each level and the types of questions that you could be asking them to improve their understanding. You will also find these targets in the back of the school planner. Visit the local library and encourage your child to read and enjoy a wide range of books, both fiction and non-fiction.

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March and invite all children to dress up as their favourite character from a book. There will be more information about this in the newsletter.

Writing- This is taught through topic work in English lessons, but also practised during other lessons. During English lessons this half term we will be continuing to focus on grammar, punctuation and spelling whilst writing different types of texts. We will be using non-fiction books about Dinosaurs so that the children can practise retrieving specific information from a text. Children will be working on writing skills such as using

accurate spelling, using adjectives, and using full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks and apostrophes. We are teaching them how to edit their work to improve punctuation, handwriting and word choices.

We have created this rainbow target sheet that is linked to the End of Key Stage 1 assessment framework. Each child will be focusing on at least 2 of the objectives to improve their writing:

I can use capital letters correctly.
I can use these punctuation marks- . ! ? , '
I can write different types of sentences- Statements, questions, exclamations and commands
I can use adjectives and adverbs to make my writing more interesting.
I can use the present and past tense correctly.
I can use these words to extend sentences- and, but, so
I can use these words to extend sentences- when, if, that, because
I can choose the correct sounds to spell with.
I can spell the Year 1 and 2 words.
I can spell contracted words. isn't, can't, don't, I'll, won't, we'll, we've
I can use words ending in these suffixes- -ment, -ness, -ful, -less, -ly amazement, enjoyment, happiness, helpfulness, colourful, wonderful, careless, thoughtless
I can join my writing.
I can write capital letters that are the correct height.
I can leave spaces between words.

During handwriting lessons we teach the children the correct formation of letters; once they are forming their letters correctly we teach them how to join. Please refer to the handwriting pages of your child's planner where you will find guidance over how we form and join letters. Children need to be able to form all their letters correctly to achieve the expected standard in writing at the end of Year 2.

Spelling rules are taught and practised during handwriting lessons and we are starting a new game called "zappers" this term that will help the children remember how to spell common exception words.

Mathematics

Whilst some of our Maths lessons are linked to our topic, most are based on the National Curriculum for Mathematics scheme of work. There is useful information to show you how we teach areas of Maths (Maths Information for Year 2 Parents) by following this link:

<http://www.shinfieldschools.co.uk/infant/pupils/year-2/>

You can support your child in maths by helping them with their Maths targets at home. These link directly to the new curriculum and will be checked by staff once a fortnight.

Science

We are learning about animals. The children will be finding out about what animals need to live and be healthy. They will also be learning about habitats and why certain animals live in particular environments, focussing first on the local environment then the wider world.

Computing

We teach the children about internet safety. You can find out more about this on our website.

We will be writing dinosaur stories, saving our work, retrieving it then editing it.

Geography

The children will continue looking at maps of the UK, looking at physical features and how keys are used. We are learning the names of countries, capital cities and oceans. They will be creating their own detailed birds-eye view plans, using a key to show what the symbols represent.

RE

We will be learning to re-tell the Easter story and understand what Jesus' resurrection means for Christians.

Art/ DT

This term we will be focusing on DT. The children will be designing and making a dinosaur diorama. During this project they will be exploring different joining techniques. **If you have any shoe boxes at home that we could use for this project please send them in by Friday 28th February!**

Music

This is taught by Mrs Brown, our music specialist. Each class has a music lesson once a week as well as learning new songs in our weekly singing assembly.

PE

During outside PE sessions we will be working on the children's throwing and catching skills. They will be applying these skills in a team game situation. All children need to have a pair of tracksuit bottoms, as we will be going out in all weathers! Please make sure their PE shoes are the right size for them.

During our indoor PE lessons we will be working on dance skills. The children will be learning and applying street dance skills to music.

PSHE (Personal, social and health education)

As a school we now follow the Jigsaw program for PSHE. If you would like more information about this please visit their website for 'Information for Parents/Carers':

<https://www.jigsawpshe.com/information-for-parents-and-carers/>

Group Challenge!



This is an activity that we include in a variety of lessons to encourage important skills such as collaboration, sharing and good speaking and listening. The children work towards a common goal in a pair or small group. They will be praised for their attitudes as much as for the end result.

Growth Mindset

We want your child to have a positive attitude towards learning and to be a brave and resilient learner. We are praising children for trying hard and showing them that they can learn from their mistakes and become more confident.

Each Friday we will choose children from each class to be in the Golden Good Book for showing excellent attitudes towards learning.

