

The Winns Primary School
Learning, Achieving, Caring and Sharing
Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn 1 – 2024/2025

Key events:

16th September Year 2 Parent Induction Meetings

1st October - Black History Month

W/C Monday 14th October - Parent Consultation Meetings

W/C Monday 21st October - Half Term

Monday 28th October – INSET day.

Weekly Schedule

PE days:

2CM – Wednesday and Thursday

2LT- Tuesday and Thursday

2CS- Wednesday and Thursday

Library Days:

2LT - Tuesday

2CM- Friday

2CS – Tuesday

These days can quite often change so we kindly request that any books stay in the children's reading folders which must be brought into school and PE kits stay in school for the duration of the half term.

Art/DT

At the Winns we alternate Art and Design Technology each half term. This half term we will be focusing on Art. This half term our topic is called:

Tell a Story

Inspired by book illustrations, the children will draw expressive characters and stories. Children explore mark-making and learn how to create textured drawings with a range of exciting art materials. The children will use their skills to develop a concertina story-book to tell their own story.

Introduction

To kick-start the Autumn Term in Year Two, we will be exploring many exciting areas of learning. Please read on to discover what we will be covering in more depth.

Year Group Email: Year2@winns.waltham.sch.uk

The Year 2 teachers are:

Miss Sim (Year Group Leader)

Miss Summers

Mrs Tassell

Support Staff:

Miss Michelle

Miss Guler (1:1)

Miss Ramona (1:1)

Science

This half term our topic will be; Living Things and their Habitat.

In this unit, the children will identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other

Home Work

In Year 2, homework will be given out every week. It will be given on a Friday as paper copy to be returned the following Friday.

Reading

Your child will take home 2 books a week. These will consist of a 'Phonics Book' which will be changed on their library day and one 'Library book', a book of their own choosing. Reading is an essential skill, and we encourage parents to engage in daily reading with their children at home. Please ensure when doing so, that you sign their reading record. Some children will confidently read to themselves, so please encourage them to sign their reading record as well.

English

This half term, we will be encouraging the children to build on the composition of their writing and begin to think about extending their ideas, adding more detail using adjectives and structuring their writing; having a beginning, middle and end.

The focus this half term will be on correct use of capital letters, including for proper nouns, full stops, conjunctions, adjectives, and the accurate spelling of the year one and two key words.

We will be learning these skills through various fiction and non-fiction texts and topics such as Poems Aloud, Clean Up! and Oceans meets Sky.

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PSHE

This half term we will be studying two topics; 'Zones of Regulation' and Tying Shoelaces. Children will explore different feelings they can experience and how to regulate these emotions.

Geography/History

At The Winns we alternate Geography and History each half term. This half term we will be focusing on Geography. In this unit children will travel around the world, learning about the different continents. They will be able to order continents by land size and population and know the names of some of the countries in each continent. They will learn about the north and south hemisphere and the equator and climate in different parts of the world.

RE

This half term, we will be exploring Islam:
Who is a Muslim and What do they Believe?

This investigation enables pupils to learn in depth from Islam, finding out about Muslim ways of life and beliefs, so that pupils can develop thoughtful ideas and viewpoints of their own about some religious and spiritual questions.

Maths

This half term we will be focusing on Place Value. Using materials and a range of representations, pupils practise counting, reading and writing to at least 100. Using these skills to then solve a variety of related problems to develop fluency. We then develop this further by ordering numbers and looking at comparing numbers using the <, > and = symbols.

We will then move on to look at addition and subtraction. At The Winns we teach addition and subtraction using the column method and exchanging a ten where necessary. Recording addition and subtraction in columns supports place value and prepares for formal written methods with larger numbers.

PE

Fundamentals: Pupils will develop the fundamental skills of balancing, running, changing direction, jumping, hopping and skipping as well as be given opportunities to work with a range of different equipment.

Fitness: Pupils will take part in a range of fitness activities to develop components of fitness.

Music

We are very lucky to have our own music teacher come to our school! Children will be exploring their music creativity through song, instruments and rhythm.

Computing

We begin the term by revisiting computer safety. Reminding the children of what they need to do to stay safe online. We then move on to our topic:

What is a computer?

Children explore what a computer is. Learning about inputs and outputs, how computers are used in the wider world and designing an invention.

Phonics/Reading

At The Winns we follow a Phonics scheme of work called Read Write Inc. Read Write Inc. Phonics teaches children to read accurately and fluently with good comprehension. They learn to form each letter, spell correctly, and compose their ideas step-by-step.

The children in year one and two split into ten differentiated groups where they will learn to read at their own pace. Differentiating reading like this helps the children to progress quickly, with the aim being that all children in year 2 will be off the Read Write Inc. scheme before the end of the year and reading through a Whole Class Reading approach.

Whole Class Reading focuses on the study of a text, looking at comprehension and understanding, rather than phonetic decoding.