

# Year 2 – Puffins



This half term, we'll visit a florist's shop or a garden centre. We'll find out how to look after plants, ask the experts questions and appreciate the flowers. We'll write an information book about plants, follow instructions, enjoy the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and write stories of our own. We'll also learn about the different parts of a plant. Our senses will help us describe and sort a range of smells and we'll make beautifully scented products. We'll look closely at a wide variety of plants, create detailed, observational drawings and press real flowers to use in collages. At the end of our project, we will have become plant experts! We'll create a presentation about plants, share the information books that we have made and design a fantasy garden

As well as our overarching topic above, we will also cover these areas:

- In English, we will be writing recounts, non-chronological reports, instructions, stories and information books
- In Maths, we will be continuing to follow the White Rose Maths Scheme with a focus on multiplication and division and statistics. We will continue to learn our multiplication tables, and the times tables focus in year 2 is x2, x3, x5, and x10. Please encourage your child to do a little every day, they can also find some engaging times tables songs on YouTube to help them and Times Tables Rockstars (if you would like the password please ask).
- In PE, we will be focusing on dance and kicking skills. Our PE days will return to **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Please ensure your child has their kit in school every day and we will send them home at the end of every half term to be washed. *All children need shorts for gymnastics, as it is not safe for them to be on the apparatus in tracksuit bottoms. They will also need a warm sweatshirt and tracksuit bottoms for outside PE, and trainers in a plastic bag.*
- In Music, our focus will be on composing some 'growing music', to perform compositions and listen to a range of music.
- In RE we will be focussing on the overarching question- How do we show we care for others? Why does it matter? We will focus on Christianity, Jewish and Muslim beliefs.
- In ICT, the focus is on questioning. The children will create pictograms, use range of yes/no questions to separate different items, as well as, design a binary tree to sort pictures. The children will be introduced to databases and will use a database to answer simple and more complex search questions.
- In PSCH, our focus is 'Dreams and Goals'. We will think about setting goals, identifying success and achievements and celebrating other people's success and achievement.
- In Science, we will be describing how plants grow, identifying what a plant needs for healthy growth and survival, as well as looking at a range of different plants and how these can be grown from different seeds. We will be growing a range of plants in the classroom and transferring these to the outside area when the weather is more suitable.
- Please ensure that your child continues to read daily, recording it in the home/school partnership book. When you are hearing your child read, please ask them questions such as why the characters in their story did certain things, how the character may have felt, and what they could have done differently. Also talk about using expression in your voice and how it makes the story exciting for the hearer. When your child is reading non-fiction text please talk to them about the way non-fiction text is set out, asking how this can help them find information. Encourage them to use the index, contents page and glossary.
- Children will continue to receive spellings on a Friday and will need to learn them for a spelling quiz the following week. We will also be using Rock Stars Tables to help children learn their times tables.
- Our whole school value for the half term is '**Perseverance**' and we will be focusing on this through whole school worship times and in class on a daily basis.

Please send in any donations of old wellies, plastic bottles, old flower pots or plastic watering cans as we will be creating a recycled herb garden. We also need some large jars as we will be creating our own mini rainforests. We are looking forward to an enjoyable and inspiring half term. Please feel free to come to drop in which is **every other** Wednesday at 3pm, or catch me any time after school if you have any concerns or want to discuss anything throughout the term. I will continue to teach Puffins on Monday-Thursday and Mrs Parkin will continue to teach them on a Friday. We are always happy to discuss matters that are important to both you and your child.

Best wishes,

Mrs Brown and Mrs Parkin.