



Year 2 – Puffins



This half term, we'll follow a route around our local streets and take pictures of the buildings, businesses and plants we can see. Talking to residents about the area will help us understand how the local community could be improved. We'll learn nursery rhymes, write poetry and create persuasive adverts. Looking at photographs will help us to spot any similarities and differences between the houses and shops of today and the past. We'll find out about the history of our school. We'll also study and draw maps, create a model of a local building, draw portraits of the people we have met and look at the work of urban artists. At the end of our project, we'll design posters to advertise a 'Big spring clean' around school before cleaning and tidying the school grounds.

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

- In English, we will be writing adverts, instructions, recounts and diary entries. The focus will be on sentence structure and word choice and writing for different purposes.
- In Maths, we will be continuing to follow the White Rose Maths Scheme with a focus on addition and subtraction, money and multiplication and division (separate information for how to support your children at home will be given out at Parents Evening). 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.
- In PE, we will be focusing on gymnastics and looking at jumps and making different shapes. Children will also be swimming on a Tuesday morning. Our PE days continue to be 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. They will also need a swimming kit (information to follow).*
- In Music, our focus will be on learning new songs and getting ready for our KS1 Christmas event (details to follow).
- In RE we will be focussing on the overarching question- What can we learn from sacred books and stories? We will focus on Christianity, Jewish and Muslim beliefs.
- In ICT, we will be looking at coding, on-line safety and spreadsheets.
- In PSCH, our focus is 'Celebrating Difference'. We will think about stereotyping and friendships.
- In Science, linked to houses and homes, children will explore different materials and their purposes.
- Please ensure that your child reads daily, which is recorded 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. 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 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 '**Trust**' and we will be focusing on this through whole school worship times and in class on a daily basis.

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 be teaching Puffins on Monday-Thursday and Mrs Parkin will be teaching 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.

Help your child prepare for their project and become street detectives and explore your local community. Why not visit a local museum to see what the local area was like in days gone by? You could also look up at the roofs of local buildings to spot interesting carvings and chimney shapes. Alternatively, read the book *A Street Through Time* by Steve Noon together to see how one street has changed over thousands of years.