



Year 2 - Puffins



We're warning you; this is going to get messy! This half term, we'll have a messy morning to investigate mixtures, from paint and toothpaste to jelly and shaving foam. We'll enjoy the story of *George's Marvellous Medicine* and **write** recipes, leaflets, lists and stories of our own. We'll use our **science skills** to explore **everyday materials**, investigate soap products and understand why mixtures freeze and melt. We'll learn how to measure using scales, measuring jugs and cylinders accurately. We'll taste a wide variety of foods, learn about healthy eating and follow recipes to make some yummy treats including pizza and ice cream! Our **artwork** will also rely on our mixing skills. We'll use marbling inks to make unusual patterns, create food landscapes inspired by Carl Warner, paint with ice cubes, model clay into exciting shapes and use a variety of materials to make mixed media collages. At the end of our project, we'll turn our classroom into a gallery and invite you to view our exhibition.

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

- In Maths, we will be continuing to follow the White Rose Maths Scheme with a focus on place value, addition, and subtraction. 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 learn them.
- In PE, we will be focusing on gymnastics and using the equipment in the hall to do this. Our PE days are 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 exploring duration and recognising and playing long and short notes to build up a sequence.
- In RE we will be looking at How and why do we celebrate significant times? What makes some celebrations sacred to believers?
- In ICT, we will be looking at coding and On-line safety using our Purple Mash Computing scheme.
- In PSHE, our focus is 'Being ME in our world'. We will think about our hopes and fears, rights and responsibilities and choices and consequences,
- 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 (more info to follow).
- Our whole school value for the first half term is 'Thankfulness' 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 with 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 'Muck and mixtures can be messy and magical!' Why not make a variety of fun recipes to reveal how mixtures can come together and change? Trifle, gooey cookies and bread would all be good to try. You could also invent a new soft drink. Mix, shake and stir a range of fruit juices, cordials and sparkling water together and taste each one. Pick the best and give it a groovy name. Alternatively, try making different bubble mixtures to see which make the biggest bubbles!