

Year 2

AUTUMN TERM 1

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back!

Hello! A warm welcome to Year 2 and the first part of the Autumn Term. We hope you have had a wonderful summer holiday and are as excited as we are to get back to school. Here's a snapshot of what we will be up to this half term...



English



Our first English unit will be based on the story of 'Little Red' by Bethan Woolvan. In this unit, the children will learn to retell the story, focusing on using 'and', 'but', and 'so' to join their ideas. After this, to celebrate 'Black History Month' the children will write a biography for Mary Seacole in the style of the Little People, Big Dreams books.

Reading



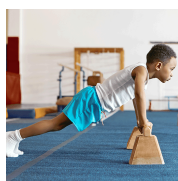
In reading, we will be supported in small groups to read a book carefully matched to our phonics level. We will read the book three times, first focusing on decoding the words, then reading fluently, and then answering questions to demonstrate our understanding of the text. Each week, the book we read will appear on Collins Hub, so we can practise at home too.

Maths



In maths this half-term, we will begin the year exploring place value up to 100. As part of our place value, the children will learn to compare the value of numbers and practise counting in jumps of 2, 5, and 10. Next, we will apply our understanding of place value to addition and subtraction problems involving the addition and subtraction of 2 2-digit numbers that cross the 10s boundary.

Science



Our Science unit for this half term is called 'Human Survival'. In this unit, the children will learn about the basic needs of humans for survival, including the importance of exercise, nutrition and good hygiene. They will also learn how human offspring grow and change over time into adulthood.

History





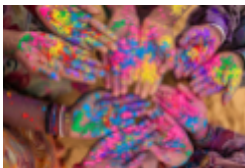



This term, our history unit is called 'Movers and Shakers'. Through this unit of work, children will learn about historically significant individuals who have had a profound impact on the world. To begin with, the children will learn about significant explorers and their impact, including Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus. Whilst learning about the achievements of these people, the children will learn to use timelines, stories and historical sources to find out about them and use historical models to explore their significance.

Geography



Our Geography unit is called 'Let's Explore the World' this term. Through this unit, the children will begin to learn some of the essential skills and knowledge about atlases, maps and cardinal compass points. They will also learn about the characteristics of the four countries of the United Kingdom and find out why there are hot, temperate and cold places around the world. They also compare England to Somalia. Children carry out fieldwork, collecting primary data in their locality to answer geographical questions.

Music	Art	DT
		
<p>Your children will explore the idea of pitch this term as they travel to a different planet. They will begin to recognise higher and lower sounds and the shape of different melodies used by their 'alien friends'. They will sing and compose short melodies and begin notating pitch through waves and dots.</p>	<p>This term, our art unit is called 'Exploring Colours'. In this essential skills and knowledge unit, the children will learn colour theory by studying the colour wheel and colour mixing. Through this, the children will also develop their understanding of primary and secondary colours, hues, and how artists use colour in their artwork, building on the knowledge they gained in Year 1.</p>	<p>This project teaches children about sources of food and tools used for food preparation. They also discover why some foods are cooked and learn to read a simple recipe. The children choose and make a new school meal that fulfils specific design criteria.</p>
Computing	R.E	PSHE
		
<p>In this unit of work, the children will learn about the different components that make up a computer and identify whether they are input or output devices. The children will also explore how technology is used in everyday life, specifically in the school environment, and how this can be beneficial.</p>	<p>Our first R.E topic is 'Special places'. The children will learn about the Hindu Mandir and how it is a special place for Hindus.</p>	<p>We will start the year with the topic 'Being Me in My World', where children will learn to explain why their behaviour can impact other people in their class. They will compare their own choices and those of their friends, and express why some choices are better than others.</p>

P.E AND OUTDOOR LEARNING

Every week, the children have two P.E sessions with our sports coaches, Coach Jordan, James and Grace. During the summer term, one of these sessions is held in our outdoor learning area, and the children are taught important skills such as teamwork, resilience and strategic thinking.

This half term, the children will be using the skills of running, jumping, throwing and catching in combination and using these skills in a team environment to achieve success through Multi Skills. We will then begin to introduce the knowledge and tactics for team sports.



P.E kit:

- ✓ White t-shirt
- ✓ Black or navy jogging bottoms (winter)
- ✓ Black or navy shorts (summer)
- ✓ Plain dark-coloured hoodie or sweatshirt
- ✓ Plimsolls (for indoor P.E)
- ✓ Trainers
- ✓ Hair tied back
- ✓ Earrings out
- ✓ Waterproof trousers (for outdoor learning)
- ✓ Wellies

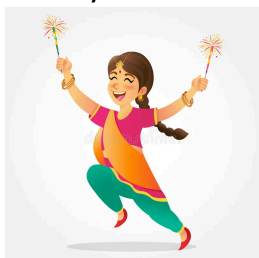
Coming up...



*Friday 17th October 2025
Diwali Light It Up!*

Once again, the children have been invited to participate in the Diwali Light It Up celebration by Kala The Arts. As part of this, the children who have volunteered will perform the dance they have been learning.

More information will follow.



Home Learning



Reading

All children are expected to read at least 5 times a week and record this in their reading diary. Reading diaries are monitored every Monday and should be brought into school. Reading books based on the children's abilities are allocated every Wednesday through Collins Hub. The children will also have a reading-for-pleasure book, which can be changed on Tuesdays.

Times Tables

We would like all children to access Times Tables Rockstars on a weekly basis. It is recommended that the children play 21 minutes a week (3 minutes a day) to help them make progress in learning their multiplication facts. By the end of the year, we aim for all children to know at least the facts in the 10, 2 and 5 times tables. When playing, we ask that the children play on the 'garage' game. Usernames and passwords can be found in the children's reading diaries.

Contact us



If there is anything you wish to discuss with us regarding the information in this newsletter, or if you have any further queries or concerns regarding your child's experience at school, please do not hesitate to get in touch:

Class 7

Mr Dave Tickle

d.tickle@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk

Miss Jess Chisnall

j.chisnall@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk

Class 8

Miss Anna Quick

a.quick@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk

Class 9

Mrs Tatiana Hardyman

t.hardyman@oakridge-inf.hants.sch.uk

How can you help?



Maths:

Now that the children are in Year 2, they will learn their times tables throughout the year. The children will begin with their 10 times table before moving on to the facts in the 2 and 5 times tables. Any practice counting in jumps of 10, 2, or 5, or recalling facts, will be beneficial. It would also be helpful for the children to access Times Tables Rockstars at home and play the 'garage' game.

Reading:

Using Collins Hub to read three times a week will help your child develop their fluency. Reading and asking questions about what they have read will also help with their comprehension.

History:

We will be looking at significant people, so any books or information that could be shared about Mary Anning, Vincent Van Gogh, Neil Armstrong, Christopher Columbus, Emmeline Pankhurst and Rosa Parks, will be helpful.

We are already enjoying getting to know your children, and we can't wait for the exciting term ahead.

Very best wishes, The Year 2 Team