



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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YEAR 2 TERMLY CURRICULUM LETTER AUTUMN 2024

Dear Parents,

We have already made a good start to our studies in Year 2 so thank you for continuing to support and encourage your child as they progress through this year. As you know, Year 2 is an important year, marking the end of Key Stage 1.

At the end of the year, we assess what level your child has attained. They will either be:

- **Securely at Age Related Expectations (ARE)**
- **Working towards ARE**
- **Below ARE**
- **Above ARE (Greater depth)**

10-minute online parent/teacher consultations take place in the middle of the Autumn Term and face to face meetings will take place, along with a book look session in the Spring Term. This is an opportunity to discuss your child's progress, behaviour, social interactions and English and Maths strengths and areas for development. An annual report to parents is written in the Summer term.

Phonics Screening Check

If your child did not attain the pass mark for the phonics screening in Year 1 we provide them with lots of additional phonics learning, some of which will come home for additional practise. There will be another opportunity to take the screening this year.

Curriculum Meeting and additional helpful documents

An overview of the vocabulary for the Autumn Term, 200 High Frequency words and a PowerPoint, outlining teaching strategies for Maths, have been posted on Google Classroom. Any questions arising from this please contact us via the school office admin@abbey.herts.sch.uk.





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SUMMARY OF CURRICULUM for the term

English

- Fiction – Alternative 'Traditional Tales' - narrative
- Non-Fiction – Letter Writing
- Poetry – Free verse

Mathematics

- Number and Place value
- Problem solving, reasoning and algebra
- Mental addition and subtraction
- Add three numbers by putting the largest first
- Addition and subtraction facts to 10 and 20
- Use units of time (hours, days, months, years)
- Doubles and halves to at least 15
- Money
- Odd and even numbers

As **Scientists** we will be exploring:

Materials - The children will name, identify and hunt for everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, rubber, brick, rock, paper, fabric and card. They will list properties of different materials such as hardness, strength, flexibility and transparency and carry out simple investigations.

Humans – What it means to stay healthy and why this is important.

Animals' needs for survival – Exploring what living things need to stay alive.

Other areas of study will include:

As **Historians**, the children will be presented with the question: **What does it take to be a great explorer?** The children will be given the opportunity to reason, describe and research significant individuals. They will need to explain their findings and suggest reasons why people did certain things and explain the significance of their actions.

As **Geographers**, the children will be presented with the question: **Why don't penguins need to fly?** Through the application and analysis of a wide range of geographical skills and resources the children will be encouraged to identify, recognise and describe key geographical features of the Antarctic environment. They will be encouraged to explain why Antarctica is a desert despite being the coldest place on Earth and describe ways that the Arctic region and North Pole is similar to and different from Antarctica and the South Pole and offer reasons for such differences.

As **Artists** we will:

- Use mixed media to create shapes, colour-mixes and shades.
- Experiment with different grades of art pencils to make different marks.
- Work in the style of an artist

As **Designers** we will:

- Look at different shaped structures and test their strength.



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As **Musicians** this term the children will focus on a song (Hands, Feet, Heart) that celebrates South African music - recognising and responding to steady beats and rhythmic patterns. They will have the opportunity to sing, play, improvise and compose. The children will learn a range of hymns and songs through the term including songs for Harvest, Remembrance, Advent and Christmas.

In **RE** we will be thinking about how we should care for the Earth and why it matters. After half term we will be learning about the religion Islam. We will look at what Muslims believe and how they live.

In **IT** we investigate different types of IT and different uses for it as well as discussing making smart choices when using it. We go on to explore digital photography and what makes a good photograph.

In **PE** we will be taking part in gymnastics and outdoor PE (Netball). In the lessons, the children will achieve within a range of physical education contexts. For example:
Physical ability is their competence and fitness to perform a range of physical skills.
Social ability is exhibited in social contexts, and is the basis of leadership and teamwork.
Cognitive (thinking) ability is shown in their approach to composing a sequence.
Creative ability is evidenced when the children respond to challenges and tasks with fluency and originality.

In **PSHE & Citizenship** we will follow our PSHE SCARF scheme – **Me and My Relationships** – how to be a good friend and dealing with different emotions. **Valuing Differences** – celebrating differences and how we can be helpful.

Forest school will be taken by Mrs Harley every Tuesday up until half term. Following half term she will take the outdoor PE sessions.

What do we expect of you, the parents?

You can help and support us by:

- Listening to your child read each evening and signing the reading record
- Helping your child practise their spellings – sent out each Monday
- Assisting your child with research and other studies as appropriate
- Monitoring homework – ensuring homework has been completed and handed in on time
- Reading through your child's homework with them
- Ensuring your child wears appropriate named PE kit each Monday and Friday as well as well-fitting plimsolls for indoors.

It is a statutory requirement that all children must participate in PE lessons. PE in Year 2 takes place on Monday and Friday. If your child does not wear their kit on a PE day then they will have to participate in the session in their school uniform and school shoes. If your child has a genuine medical reason why they cannot take part in a games session, then a note must be provided.

Homework:

- Spelling lists will be set every Monday, the children will have a week to learn and practise their lists before using the words in a small dictation.
- Reading books will be changed by the children when they have finished and require a new one. We would aim for them to do this at least twice a week. Please sign their reading record to confirm they have read.



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- All children have been issued a Times Table Rockstar account. Log-in details will be stuck in your child's reading record later this term. However, as I mentioned in the parent meeting, start with Hit the Button, maths online games. We aim to introduce Times table Rockstars later in the year.
- In addition to this we will send small activities home when we feel some consolidation in an area of learning would benefit or research required.
- We suggest homework should take no more than 10 minutes per evening and be done with care and concentration.

Who will be working with your children this term?

I will be working in Year 2 all week. We have Mrs Clarke as the Teaching Assistant 3 afternoons, Mrs Parker 1 morning and Mrs Beckley 4 mornings a week.

If, at any stage, you have questions or require further clarification relating to any aspect of your child's school activities, in the first instance please email the school to arrange to speak/email with me. We have appreciated your support and assistance so far in this new academic year and we are confident that you will continue to work with us to ensure that your child has a happy and successful term.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Easby
Year 2 Teacher