



Address: High Street, Harefield, Middlesex, UB9 6BT

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Executive Head Teacher: Mr A.Sunner

Head of School: Mr J.Downs

Tuesday 20th February 2024

Dear Year 2 parents/carers,

Year 2 Curriculum Letter – Spring (2nd half)

Message from the teachers

Welcome back to year 2. We hope you all had a fun and relaxing half term. This letter will briefly outline some of the lessons that year 2 will have fun exploring through the second half of the spring term.

Our Core Values

Happiness: we spread joy to those around us.

Compassion: we care and are kind to all.

Respect: we treat others as we like to be treated.

Teamwork: we work well with everyone.

Year 2 Staffing

Elder class teacher: Miss Faghiri

Birch class teacher: Miss Troup

Year 2 learning support assistants: Mrs Warne and Mrs Childs

Communication

Please feel free to arrange a meeting should you wish to speak to one of the teachers in person. Alternatively, you can email class teachers directly on the class email accounts and we will do our best to get back to you within a couple of working days.

Elderclass@harefieldinfant.com

Birchclass@harefieldinfant.com

Homework

Homework, along with answers, will be sent out every **Friday** to be returned the following **Friday**. Spelling tests will take place every **Friday**.

Reading at home

Phonics reading books will be sent out every **Monday**. These are to be returned every **Friday**. We will also visit the school library each **Wednesday** on a weekly basis, from where the children can select a book to borrow and read at home. Please return these books to school once your child has finished reading it. New home reading books and library books will not be issued until the previous ones have been returned.

Spring Term Learning

This half term we will be learning the following in each subject area.



English

Year 2 will be reading 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. They will begin with writing a meeting tale where their character will go somewhere and meet a made up character unexpectedly. Following that, the children will write an explanation text around 'The Iron Man'.

Mathematics

In mathematics this half term, Year 2 will continue to look at, multiplication and division. We will make equal groups by grouping and sharing. Children will also look at 2, 5 and 10 times table as well as dividing by 2, 5 and 10

Later, Year 2 will look at measurement. First, they will look at measuring in centimetres and metres with a ruler, comparing lengths using vocabulary such as, "longer than", "shorter than" and ordering length with new vocabulary such as, "shortest", "longest" and "tallest". We will then move on to measuring mass, capacity and temperature.

Science

Year 2 will be focusing on 'living things and their habitat' this half term. Children will look at habitats and diet. Children will learn about polar habitats, desert habitats, ocean habitats, woodland habitats and microhabitats – attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.

History

In History, Year 2's topic is 'The Great Fire of London'. The children will learn about the key events of the Great Fire of London and help them to develop an understanding of the ways in which we can find out about the past - attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.


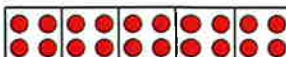
Computing

The computing unit this term is called 'Online Safety'. The children will look at how to improve the efficiency of their online searches, the type of websites that are best for children to access when looking for information, as well as how to identify inappropriate content and the actions they should take if they do. Children will be introduced to the term 'cyberbullying' and consider how they should communicate online.

Physical Education

Indoor P.E. will be taking place in Year 2 for both classes on **Tuesday**. The indoor P.E. unit this term is called 'Dance: Plants'.

Tiny uses a bar model to work out $20 \div 5$



I have shared the counters into 5 equal groups, so $20 \div 5 = 5$

Do you agree with Tiny?
Why?





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Birch class will be having outdoor P.E. on **Monday**. The outdoor P.E. unit this term is called 'Multi-skills: Bat & Ball'

Please ensure you send your child to school wearing the correct P.E. kits on these days.

Forest School

Forest School will be taking place each **Monday afternoon** for **Elder** Class this half term. The children will be given opportunities to learn in nature, building a range of skills and making observations of the changing seasons.

Religious Education

Year 2 topic is 'Beginnings and Endings' – attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.

Music

We are very fortunate to have a new specialist music teacher, Miss Starkey, in school every Wednesday to teach Year 2 music lessons, focusing on learning to play the Djembe drums.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

Through the P.S.H.E unit 'Healthy Me' the children will explore how to be motivated to make healthy lifestyle choices. They will learn to feel positive about caring for their bodies and keeping them healthy.


Please feel free to contact us via the class email accounts should you have any questions over the term ahead.


Yours faithfully,


Miss Faghiri and Miss Troup
Year 2 teachers


Key Vocabulary


- mammal** - an animal with fur/hair



- bird** - an animal with feathers, wings and a beak



- deciduous tree** - a tree that loses its leaves during autumn



- evergreen tree** - a tree that keeps its leaves all year round



- habitat** - a place where an animal or plant lives



- carnivore** - an animal that eats other animals



- herbivore** - an animal that eats plants



- Arctic plants** - plants that grow in the Arctic



- hibernate** - to spend a long period of time in a deep sleep
- ocean** - a large area of seawater



- fish** - an animal that lives in water which usually has fins, scales and gills



- seagrass** - a plant that grows and lives in the water



- woodland** - a large area with trees, shrubs and other plants



- fern** - a plant with long stems and feather-like leaves



- moss** - a plant that grows in damp conditions



- omnivore** - an animal that eats other animals and plants



- food chain** - the order in which energy is passed from one plant or animal to another when they are eaten



- microhabitat** - a very small habitat



- insect** - a small animal that has six legs



- spider** - a small animal that has eight legs

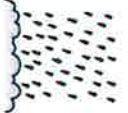

- snail** - a small animal with a soft body and a shell


- reptile** - an animal with dry scales


- cactus** - a plant with spines


- desert** - an area often covered in sand with very little rainfall


- rainfall** - the amount of rain that falls in one place



Knowledge

- A habitat is where a plant or animal lives.
- A habitat provides everything a plant or animal needs to survive.
- All animals and plants have a habitat.
- There are different habitats in my local area.
- A habitat is where a plant or animal lives.
- A habitat provides everything a plant or animal needs to survive.
- Polar animals can survive in extremely cold weather.
- Some polar animals are carnivores.
- Some polar animals are herbivores.
- Desert animals can survive in extremely hot weather.
- Some plants can survive for a long time without water.
- Ocean animals include fish, mammals and reptiles.
- In oceans, some animals eat plants and others use plants for shelter or to hide from other animals.
- Some animals and plants live in woodland habitats.
- In woodlands, some animals eat plants and others use plants for shelter.
- A microhabitat is a very small habitat.
- Insects, snails, worms and spiders all live and survive in microhabitats.
- An animal's habitat provides the food it needs to survive.
- Some animals are carnivores.
- Some animals are herbivores.
- Some animals are omnivores.
- A food chain shows how different living things rely on each other.
- A food chain normally starts with plants.
- Some animals eat other living things for energy.
- Animals, plants and humans are living things.
- Living things need certain things to survive, such as water, food, shelter and air.
- When something is dead, it was once living.
- Some things were never alive, such as rocks, water or toys.

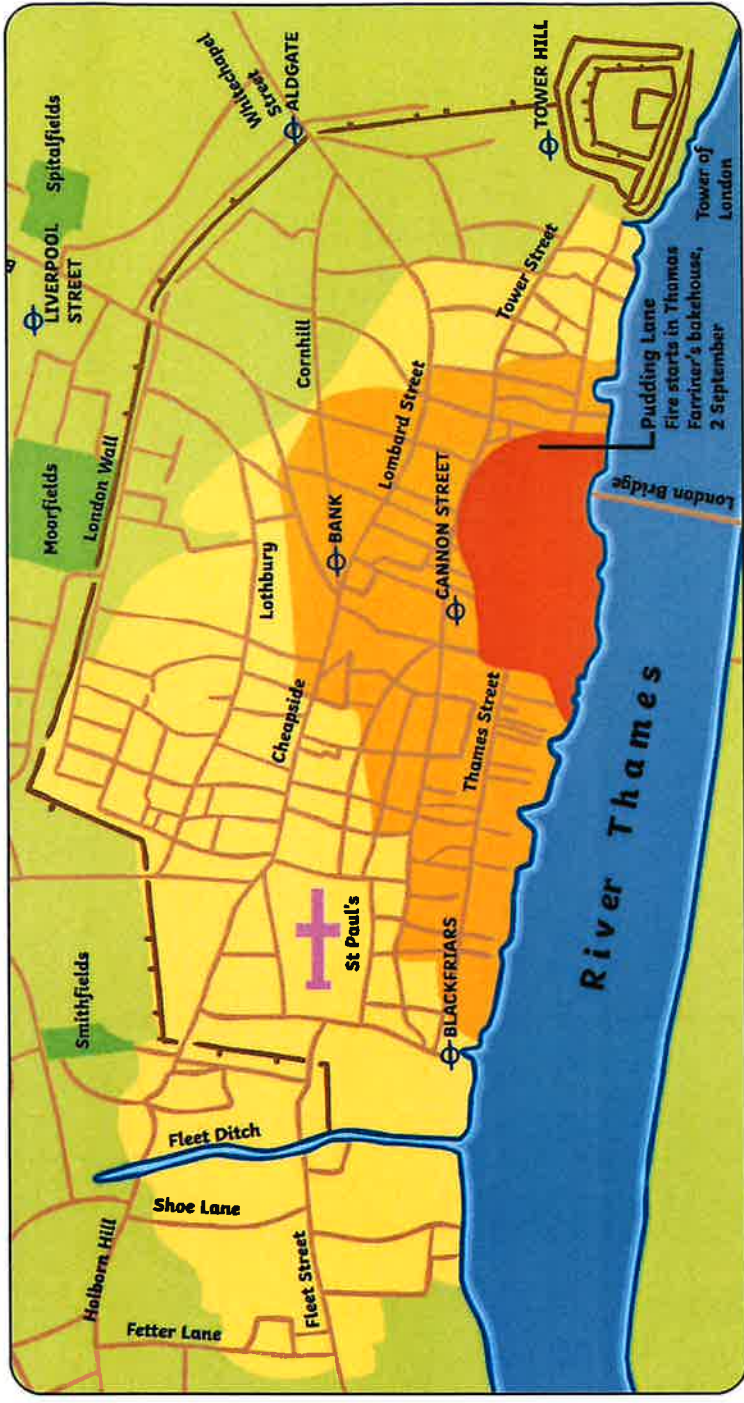
Key Vocabulary	
bakery	A shop where bread is made and sold.
diary	A book that people write about their lives in.
fire engine	A vehicle that carries things used to put out fires.
firefighter	People who put out fires as their job.
St Paul's Cathedral	A very large church in London. St Paul's Cathedral was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren after the fire.
rebuilt	Building something again after it has been broken or destroyed.
river Thames	The river that runs through the middle of London.
17th century	From the year 1601 to 1700. The Great Fire of London happened in the 17th century , in 1666.

Key People		
	Samuel Pepys	King Charles II
	Sir Christopher Wren	
		King Charles II

Key Knowledge	
When was the Great Fire of London?	The Great Fire of London started on Sunday 2 nd September 1666 and ended on Thursday 6 th September 1666.
Where did the fire start?	The fire started in a bakery on Pudding Lane.
Why did the fire spread so quickly?	In 1666, the buildings in London were very close together and many were made of wood and had straw roofs.
What happened after the fire?	After the fire, many buildings were rebuilt . King Charles II ordered that buildings were built further apart and made of stone to make sure the fire could not happen again so easily.

Spread of the Fire

- Sunday 2nd September 1666
- Monday 3rd September 1666
- Tuesday and Wednesday 4-5th September 1666



Monday 3rd September 1666

The fire gets very close to the Tower of London.

Tuesday 4th September 1666

St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed by the fire.

Sunday 2nd September 1666

The fire starts at around 1 a.m.
Mid-morning: Samuel Pepys starts to write about the fire in his **diary**.

Wednesday 5th September 1666

The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.

Thursday 6th September 1666

The fire is finally put out.
Thousands of people are left homeless.

Key Vocabulary

beginning	The start of something new.
celebrate	To take part in an enjoyable activities for a special occasion.
ending	The end or final part of something.
reflect	To think carefully about.
Vaisakhi	The Sikh Harvest celebration.
founding	The beginning or start of something.
Sikh	People who follow the religion of Sikhi.
Panj Pyare	The first members of Sikhi. Also known as the Beloved Five.
justice	Fairness.
gurdwara	A Sikh place of worship.

Beginnings and Endings

Beginnings can often be a time of excitement and happiness and a time to **celebrate**. **Endings** are often a time to remember and **reflect** and can sometimes be sad.

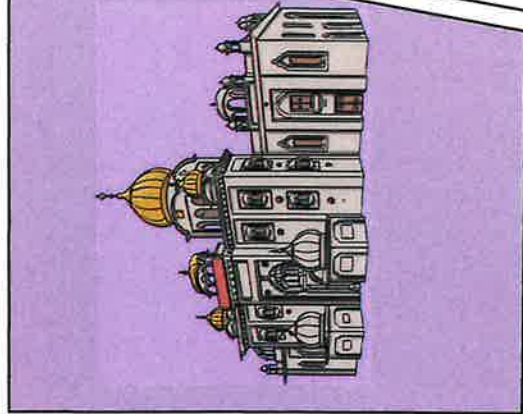
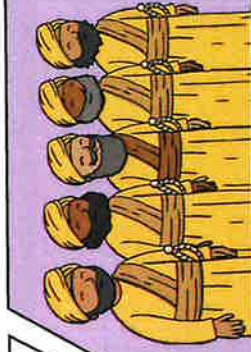


Vaisakhi began as a harvest festival and the **founding** of the religion.



Vaisakhi

During **Vaisakhi**, **Sikhs** remember the story of the **Panj Pyare** and how they gave up their everyday lives to follow Sikhi. The Panj Pyare represent the following: kindness, justice, organisation, courage and majesty.



Naam Karan

Naam Karan is a **Sikh**

baby naming ceremony. The baby is welcomed into the **Sikh** faith. Naam Karan takes place in a **gurdwara**. The **Sikh** holy book (the Guru Granth Sahib Ji) is opened at random. The first letter of the first word on that page is chosen to be the first letter of the baby's name. Once the name has been chosen, everybody cheers. For their second name, girls are called Kaur (princess) and boys are called Singh (lion).

Key Vocabulary

baptism	A ceremony welcoming a person into the Christian church.
symbolises	When something stands for something else.
sins	Christians believe that sins are wrong actions, that are not what God would want a person to do.
Christian	People who follow the religion of Christianity.
resurrection	When Jesus came back to life after death.
crucifixion	When Jesus was put to death on a cross.
Bar/Bat Mitzvah	A Jewish celebration for the beginning of adulthood.

Jesus' Baptism

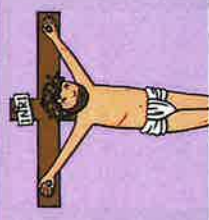
John the Baptist **baptised** Jesus in the River Jordan. When Jesus came up from under the water, the sun came out and a dove flew down. Jesus heard God's voice say, "This is my son. I love him and I am pleased with him." Water is used in **baptism** and **symbolises** a person's sins being washed away and the **beginning** of their journey of faith as a **Christian**.



Christians are often **baptised** as a baby, when they are given their name, but they can also be **baptised** as an older child or an adult. Gifts are often given at **baptisms**.

Easter

Christians celebrate Easter to remember the story in the Bible of Jesus' **crucifixion** and **resurrection**. **Christians** believe that Jesus died so that everyone's **sins** could be forgiven.



At Easter time, **Christians** go to church, send cards and give Easter eggs. Easter eggs **symbolise** the new life, as a **Christian**, that God promises to those that believe in him.

Celebrating Easter

Endings

An **ending** can also be a **beginning**. The end of Jesus' life was the **beginning** of hope and new life for **Christians**. Other **beginning** and **ending** ceremonies are **celebrated** by different religions, such as **Bar/Bat Mitzvah** and weddings.

