



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

Tel: 01895 462399

Email: office@harefieldinfant.com

Web: www.harefieldinfant.com

Executive Head Teacher: Mr A.Sunner

Head of School: Mr J.Downs

Monday 4th November 2024

Dear Year 2 parents/carers,

Year 2 Curriculum Letter - Autumn (2nd half)

Message from the teachers

Well done to all of Year 2 for a fantastic start to the academic year. We hope you all had a fun and relaxing half term and that you are ready for an exciting lead up to Christmas. This letter will briefly outline some of the lessons that Year 2 will have fun exploring through the second half of the Autumn 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 Childs and Mrs Warne

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 **Friday**. These are to be returned every **Friday**.

We will also visit the school library each **Monday** 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.

Autumn Term Learning

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

HAPPINESS · COMPASSION · RESPECT · TEAMWORK

English



Year 2 will be reading 'The Elves and the Shoemaker' by Emma Caulfield. We will use this to write a letter, where the children inform a friend about something strange that has been happening to them. Later in the half term, we will be creating poems about the cheeky elves!

Mathematics

In mathematics this half term, Year 2 will continue to look at addition and subtraction to and within 100. We will solve addition and subtraction problems across tens and begin to use this knowledge to compare number sentences.

Ann has 14 stickers.

She gives some stickers to Ben.

Now she has 6 stickers.

How many stickers does she give to Ben?

How do you know?

Later in the term, we will move onto shape. The children will learn to recognise 2D and 3D shapes, identify lines of symmetry and count vertices, faces and edges on a shape.

Physical Education

Indoor P.E. will be taking place in Year 2 for both classes on **Thursday**. The indoor P.E. unit this term is called 'The Gunpowder Plot'. In this dance unit, children will understand how dance can be used to communicate ideas through movement, gesture and expression.

Birch class will be having outdoor P.E. on **Friday**. The outdoor P.E. unit this term is called 'Throwing and Catching', where we will learn how to roll and stop a ball, how to throw underarm for accuracy, throw overarm for distance and begin to apply this to some basic invasion games. Please ensure you send your child to school wearing their P.E. kits on these days.

Forest School

Forest School will be taking place each **Friday** 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.

Music



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We are very fortunate to have a specialist music teacher 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 'Celebrating Difference' the children will discuss and accept everyone is different, continue to learn how they can stand up for themselves and others and reflect on how they can celebrate difference and continue friendships.

Computing

In computing this term, year 2 will continue with the 'Using the internet' unit, which teaches children basic skills needed when using a computer.

In **Science**, year 2 will be learning about materials, and then will use this knowledge to investigate how waterproof different materials are – attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.

In **History**, year 2 will be learning about 'The Gunpowder Plot – attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.

In **Religious Education**, year 2's topic is 'Rules and Routines' – attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.


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


- material** - what an object is made from



- natural material** - a material that comes from animals, plants or the Earth



- man-made material** - a material made by humans


- recycle** - to change rubbish into a material that can be used again


- independent variable** (what will change) - the material


- dependent variable** (what will be measured) - the amount of water that has passed through the material


- controlled variable** (what is kept the same) - the amount of water used, the time taken before checking the results and the size of the material squares



- smooth** - an even surface



- rough** - an uneven surface



- flexible** - can change shape easily



- rigid** - cannot change shape easily



- brittle** - easily broken



- flexible** - can change shape easily



- shiny** - a surface that can reflect light easily



- dull** - not clear, bright or shiny



- hard** - not easily broken or bent



- rock** - a natural material found on or underneath the Earth's surface



- stone** - a smaller rock



- pebble** - a small, smooth rock that has been shaped by water



- brick** - a man-made building material



- fabric** - a material made from weaving or knitting threads together



- tough** - not easily broken



- lightweight** - fabric that is thin and light



- soft** - a material that can easily change shape or is gentle to touch



- transparent** - materials you can see through



- translucent** - materials that allow some light to pass through so you cannot see clearly through them



- opaque** - materials you cannot see through



- squash** - to crush or squeeze something



- bend** - to force something to curve



- twist** - to bend or curl something out of shape



- stretch** - to make something longer without ripping, breaking or tearing it



Knowledge

- Objects can be made from different materials.
- Some materials are natural such as sand, wood and wool.
- Some are man-made such as plastic and brick.
- Some materials are recyclable and can be used again.
- Paper and cardboard are made from wood.
- Wood, paper and cardboard come from trees.
- There are different strengths of wood, paper and cardboard.
- Wood, paper and cardboard can all be recycled and used again.
- Rocks are a natural material.
- Bricks are a man-made material.
- Rocks and bricks can be used to build houses, buildings and roads.
- Glass is hard and brittle.
- Plastic can be flexible or hard.
- Some plastic can be recycled.
- All glass is recyclable.
- Metal comes in many forms and colours.
- Some metals are flexible and can easily change shape.
- Some metals cannot change shape easily.
- Metal can be used to make many different objects.
- Fabrics can be natural.
- Fabrics can be man-made.
- Fabrics have different uses.
- Materials have particular uses.
- Some objects can be made from different materials.
- Some materials are suitable for an object.
- Some materials are unsuitable for an object.
- Some materials can change shape and some cannot.
- Some materials can be bent.
- Some materials can twist.
- Some materials can be squashed.
- Some materials can be stretched.

Key Vocabulary

London	The capital city of England and the UK where the Gunpowder Plot took place.
plot	A secret plan to do something that could hurt others or is not allowed.
gunpowder	A powder used to create explosions.
Catholic	A Christian who is a member of the Catholic Church.
Protestant	A Christian who is a member of the Church of England.
Guy Fawkes	A gunpowder expert who was blamed for the plot .
King James I	The king of England when the Gunpowder Plot took place.



Key People



Guy Fawkes



Robert Catesby



Thomas Percy



King James I

The Plotters Planning the Gunpowder Plot



Bonfire Night

Did you know that the failure of the **Gunpowder Plot** is remembered every year on 5th November?

People light bonfires and set off fireworks.



Key Facts

<p>What was the Gunpowder Plot?</p>	<p>The Gunpowder Plot was a plot to kill King James I and his government by blowing up the Houses of Parliament.</p>
<p>Why was there a plot?</p>	<p>The plotters were all Catholic. They thought that King James I was being unfair to Catholics because he was a Protestant. They did not want him to be the king any more.</p>
<p>Did the plot succeed?</p>	<p>The plot failed. Guy Fawkes was found with gunpowder in the cellar at the Houses of Parliament.</p>

24th March 1603
King James I becomes King of England.

13th April 1570
Guy Fawkes is born.

March 1605
The plotters rent a cellar under the Houses of Parliament.

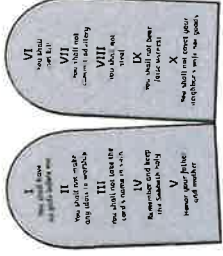

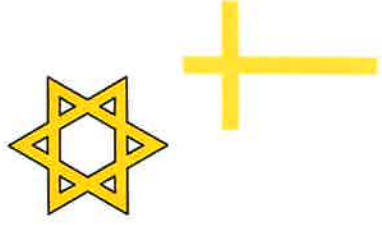
May 1604
The group begin to plot against King James I.

5th November 1605
Guy Fawkes is found in the cellar with 36 barrels of gunpowder by the king's guards.

26th October 1605
Lord Monteagle, who is a Catholic, receives an unsigned letter that warns him not to go to the opening of Parliament on the **5th November**.

31st January 1606
Guy Fawkes is executed.

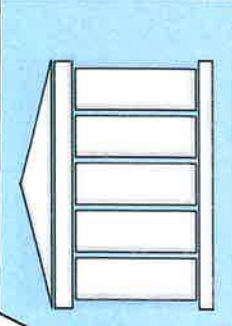
Timeline of Events

Key Vocabulary		The Difference Between Rules and Routines	
rule	Something which must be done or followed.	<p>Rules are something that must be followed. Routines are the order that we do things. In school, you will have rules (e.g. no hurting others), but you will also have routines, such as having a story before home time.</p>	
routine	The usual order and way you do regular things.		
The Ten Commandments	A set of rules that Christians and Jews follow in their lives.	<p>The Ten Commandments</p> <p>The Ten Commandments are a set of rules that were given by God, to Moses. They are found in the Old Testament of the Bible and the Torah. They are important to Christians and Jews and help them live their lives.</p> 	
Christians	Followers of Christianity.		
Jews	Followers of Judaism.		
Shabbat	Hebrew word for Sabbath.	<p>Shabbat is the seventh day of the week. Jews celebrate the Sabbath every week and remember how God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh day. Keeping the seventh day holy is one of The Ten Commandments: 'Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy'.</p>	
Sabbath	For Jews , the Sabbath is kept from Friday evening to Saturday evening.		
Torah	Jewish scriptures.	<p>During Shabbat, people spend time eating and being with family and God (in prayer), going to the synagogue and eating the Shabbat meal.</p> 	
Synagogue	A Jewish house of worship.		
Bible	A collection of religious texts or scriptures sacred to Christians .	<p>The first three Commandments are about how God should be treated. The other seven are about how people should behave and how they should treat each other.</p> 	

Key Vocabulary	
Muslims	Followers of Islam.
symbol	An image or picture that is used to represent something.
Punjabi	The language that comes from the Punjab region of India and Pakistan.
Khalsa	Group of people who are Sikhs .
Sikhs	Followers of Sikhism.
humanist	Someone who believes that science explains how the universe was created and how it works.



The Five Pillars of Islam These are duties which many **Muslims** carry out in their life, to live in a good and responsible way. The Five Pillars of Islam are shahadah (profession of faith), salah (prayer), zakat (giving), sawm (fasting) and Hajj (pilgrimage).



Humanists believe that science explains how the universe was created and how it works. **Humanists** believe that there is no bigger purpose to the universe, or an afterlife. **Humanists** believe that everyone has the ability to give their own lives meaning and make themselves and others happy. When **humanists** make decisions, they don't follow a written set of **rules**. Instead, **humanists** make decisions based on:

- Experience - things you have done and learned from.
- Reason - thinking, understanding and making judgements.
- Empathy - understanding and sharing the feelings of others.
- Respect for others - understanding that others may think differently to you and acceptance that everyone's views are equally important.



The 5 Ks The Five Ks are **symbols** that **Sikhs** wear to show their dedication to Sikhism and that they belong to the **Khalsa**. The 5 Ks have that name because all the **symbols** in **punjabi** begin with the letter K. They are the kangha (comb), kara (steel bangle), kesh (uncut hair), kirpan (sword) and kachera (short trousers).

