



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

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Web: www.harefieldinfant.com

Executive Head Teacher: Mr A.Sunner

Head of School: Mr J.Downs

Tuesday 25th February 2025

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 **Friday**. These are to be returned the following **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.

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.

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?

There's more detail about what we will be learning on the White Rose website:

<https://whiteroseeducation.com/resources?year=year-2-new&subject=maths>

Science

Year 2 will be focusing on 'Living Things and Their Habitats' this half term – 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 'Kings and Queens' - attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.

Religious Education

Year 2 topic is 'Nature and God' – 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 specialist music teacher in school every Monday and Wednesday to teach Year 2 music lessons, focusing on learning to play the Djembe drums.

Art

Our art unit is 'Portraits'. Children will use of different materials and techniques when making their own portrait. The children will also have the opportunity to explore the work of Pablo Picasso, Paul Klee, Henri Matisse and Andy Warhol, and create artwork inspired by them.



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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.

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 'Gymnastics: Under the Sea'. Inspired by items and creatures found under the sea, children will develop their control, agility and coordination.

Birch class will be having outdoor P.E. on **Friday**. The outdoor P.E. unit this term is called 'Multi-skills: Bat & Ball' The outdoor P.E. unit this term is called 'Invasion Games', where children will develop their understanding of the fundamental principles of invasion games, such as attacking, defending, scoring and teamwork.

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 **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.


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

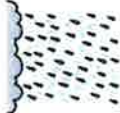

- snail** – a small animal with a soft body and a shell


- 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

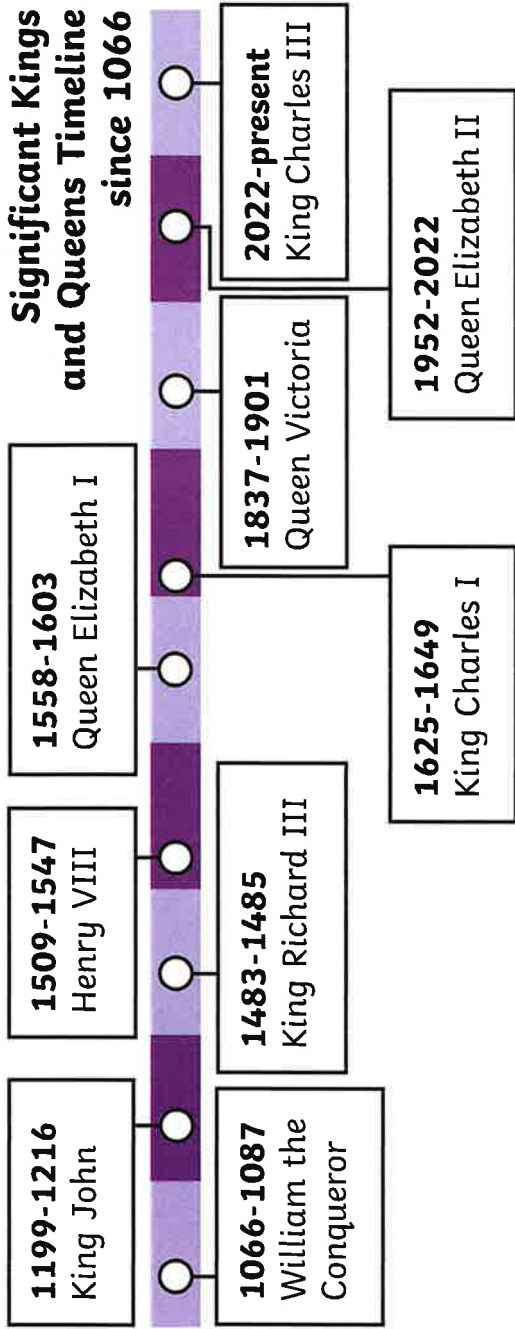


Knowledge

- 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 Facts		Key Vocabulary	
Who is our current monarch?	King Charles III is our current monarch. King Charles III became king after Queen Elizabeth II (his mother) died in 2022.	monarch	A monarch is a king or queen, an emperor or a sultan.
Who was Queen Victoria?	Queen Victoria was queen for almost 64 years. This time was called the Victorian period. Cars and trains were invented during this time.	Parliament	This is where politicians meet to decide laws.
What is Henry VIII known for?	Henry was desperate for a son, so when his wife Katherine of Aragon gave birth to a baby girl, he divorced her. In doing so, he split England from the Catholic Church and created the Church of England. Henry had a total of six wives. He divorced two and beheaded two!	succession	This is the order in which a monarch's family will take over the throne.
Who is the longest reigning monarch?	Queen Elizabeth II was the longest reigning monarch. She reigned for 70 years.	crown	Crowns are usually made of metal and are worn on the heads of kings and queens.
What is Richard III remembered for?	Richard III is often remembered for being a cruel and unkind king. He is also famous because nobody knew where he was buried until his skeleton was discovered in a car park in 2012.	power	Something kings and queens have to make people do what they say.
Who was Elizabeth I?	Elizabeth I was the daughter of Henry VIII. She never married, although she said she was married to her country.		

Key Vocabulary	
reign	The time that someone is king or queen for.
royal	A way of describing the monarch and their family.
rule	This is how a monarch tells people what to do.



Key People

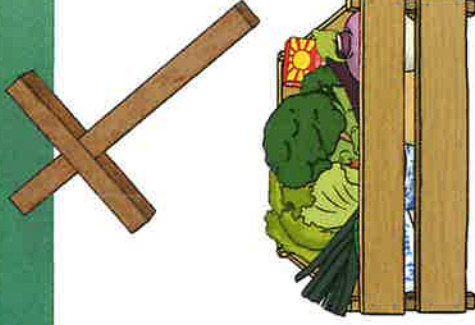
- William the Conqueror
- Charles I
- Elizabeth I
- Henry VIII
- Richard III
- John
- Elizabeth II
- Victoria
- King Charles III

Key Vocabulary

Creation story	The Creation story is what the Bible says about how the world was created by God.
create	Creating something means making it.
reflection	Reflection is where you think carefully about something that has happened.
harvest	Harvesting is the process of collecting in crops. Harvest time is the period of time which it takes to gather in all the crops.
produce	Produce is a word used to describe food that has been grown and harvested.

Harvest

During **harvest** time Christians thank God for helping them to grow the food that they have collected. A **Harvest** Festival is held at churches (and sometimes in school) where **produce** is donated and then given to those in need.



On the seventh day, God rested. Sunday is seen by Christians as the seventh day of the week and is a day for rest and **reflection** - this often includes going to church.

The Creation Story



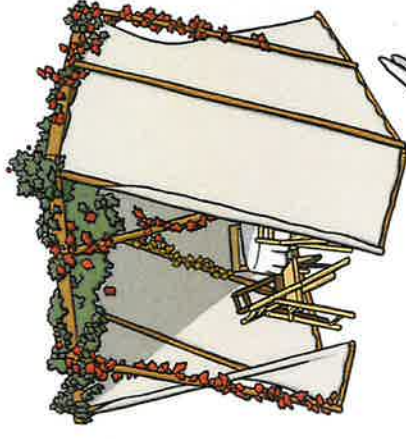
On the first day, God made light (“day”) and dark (“night”).
 On the second day, God made the sky.
 On the third day, God **created** the land and the seas. He also **created** plants and trees.
 On the fourth day, God **created** the sun, the moon and the stars.
 On the fifth day, God **created** birds and sea creatures.
 On the sixth day, God **created** animals to fill the earth. God also **created** humans to enjoy and care for all that He had made.
 On the seventh day, God rested.

Key Vocabulary

Sukkot	A Jewish festival that celebrates God looking after the Jews when they lived in the desert.
sukkah	A hut where Jews lived during their years of living in the desert.
synagogue	A Jewish place of worship.
Prince Siddhartha	The real name of the Buddha, a religious teacher who lived many years ago in India. He founded the Buddhist religion.
Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)	The founder of the religion of Islam. Muslims believe that Allah sent messages to him which then formed their holy book - the Qu'ran.

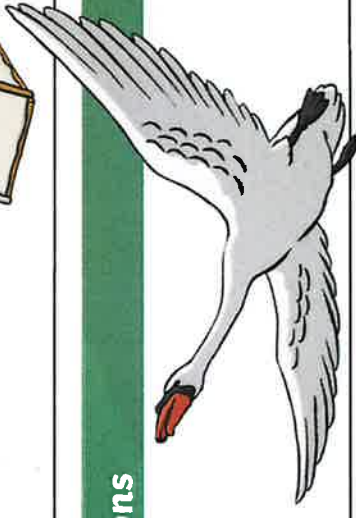
Sukkot

Every year, many Jewish families celebrate **Sukkot** by building and living in a **sukkah** for a week. They try to eat all their meals inside it and also invite their family and friends to eat in it too. This is to help them remember when God freed them from slavery and they wandered in the desert for forty years. On the seventh day of **Sukkot**, Jews visit the **synagogue** to give thanks to God for looking after them.



Protecting Nature in Different Religions

In some religions, there are stories that make you think about how you help other people and animals in your everyday lives.



Prince Siddhartha and the Swan

tells the story of the Buddha, who was always kind to animals. When he saw an injured swan, the Buddha nursed the swan back to health and released it into the wild.

The Boy Who Threw Stones at Trees

tells the story of a young boy who threw stones at a date tree to get the fruit to fall off so he could eat it. This was damaging the tree and when he was caught, the **Prophet Muhammad** (peace be upon him) taught him about the importance of caring for plants too.