

Friday 9th January 2026

Dear Year 2 parents/carers,

Year 2 Curriculum Letter – Spring (1st half)

Message from the teachers

Happy New Year to you all, we hope you had a fabulous festive break and welcome you all back to school.

This letter will briefly outline some of the lessons that year 2 will have fun exploring through the first half term 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 Mac

Birch class teacher: Miss Heffernan

Learning support assistant: 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**.

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.



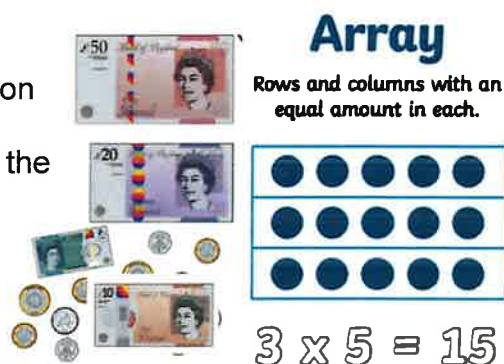
English

Year 2 will be reading 'Fantastic Mr Fox' by Roald Dahl and use this to create their own 'Rags To Riches Tale' where they will create a character who happens to be poor but becomes rich. Later this half term, they will use the same text to write a recount.

Mathematics

In maths this half term, Year 2 will look at money, multiplication and division. They will learn to count money in pence and pounds. The children will build on the learning from earlier in the block, choosing notes and coins to make a given amount.

Later in term, we will move onto multiplication and division. The children will learn multiplication using equal groups and arrays and learn to divide by sharing into equal groups.



In year 2, children need to know their 2, 5, and 10 times tables confidently. Daily practice of these at home would support greatly.

Physical Education

Indoor P.E. will be taking place in Year 2 for both classes on **Thursdays**. The indoor P.E. unit this term is called 'Dance: Plants'. Children will explore movements based on working in the garden, different types of seeds and how plants grow.

Forest School

Forest School will be taking place each **Friday afternoon** for **both classes** 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

We are very fortunate to have a specialist music teacher in school every Monday (Elder) and Wednesday (Birch) to teach Year 2 music lessons, focusing on learning to play the Djembe drums.



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Executive Head Teacher: Mr A.Sunner

Head of School: Mr J.Downs

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

Through the P.S.H.E unit 'Dreams and Goals' the children will learn how to stay motivated when doing something challenging. Children will have the opportunities to work with a partner or in a group to help each other find ways to achieve their dreams and goals.

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.

Science

Year 2 will be focusing on 'Plants' this half term – attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.

Geography

In Geography, year 2 topic is 'What a wonderful world' – attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning this unit.

Religious Education

Year 2 topic is 'Christianity' – 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 Mac and Miss Heffernan
Year 2 teachers

Key Vocabulary

- **plant** – a living thing that usually grows in soil

- **flower** – the part of a plant that blooms

- **fruit** – a part of a plant that contains seeds

- **vegetable** – a part of a plant that can be eaten as food, such as a stem, root or leaf

- **herb** – a plant that can be used to flavour food

- **compost** – a type of soil


- **sunlight** – the light from the Sun



- **independent variable** (what will change) – the amount of light the plant receives



- **dependent variable** (what will be measured) – the growth of the plants, the height of the plants



- **controlled variables** (what is kept the same) – the number of seeds in a pot, the amount of water the plant receives, the amount of soil in the pots



- **blossom** – the flowering part of a tree



- **stem** – the long and thin part of a plant which sits above the soil



- **leaf** – the flat, green part of a plant that grows from the stem or branch



Knowledge

- A plant is a living thing.
- There are many different types of plants.
- Many plants have flowers or fruit.
- Parts of some plants can be eaten.
- Trees have roots, a trunk, branches and leaves.
- Many trees have blossom or fruit.
- Flowering plants have roots, a stem, leaves and petals.
- Plants need water to grow and stay healthy.
- Plants need light to grow and stay healthy.
- If plants do not have water and light, they may become weak and not grow properly.

- **seed** – a part of a plant that can grow into a new plant



- **trunk** – the main stem of a tree



- **branch** – the part of a tree that grows from the trunk





Key Vocabulary	
continent	A very large area of land that includes all the islands with it.
ocean	A large area of sea.
population	The number of people that live in a particular place.
landmark	A well-known building or place.
Australasia	The continent of Australasia is often referred to as just Australia. It has about 28 countries and island groups.
desert	A large area of land that has very little rainfall and where not much grows.
rainforest	A large area of land with lots of tall trees and plenty of rainfall.

Continents	World Oceans
There are seven continents : Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australasia , Europe, North America and South America. Some continents have many countries, others do not.	There are five oceans in the world: the Arctic Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Pacific Ocean and the Southern Ocean.
Europe	Landmarks
Europe is the second smallest continent . It has around 44 countries, including England. About 740 million people live in Europe. It is the third largest continent in terms of population .	Europe has many famous landmarks , including Stonehenge in England, the Matterhorn in Switzerland and the Eiffel Tower in France. Landmarks in other continents include the Yangtze River in China (which is in Asia) and the Great Barrier Reef located off the coast of Australia.
 	
Continent Facts	
Half the world's population live in Asia. The largest desert in the world (the Sahara) is in Africa. North America is twice the size of Europe. Over half of Australia is desert or receives little rain. The Amazon rainforest is in South America. Antarctica is known as the 'frozen continent.'	

Key Vocabulary	
compass	A piece of equipment that tells you what direction you are travelling in. The main compass points are north, south, east and west.
climate	The usual weather conditions of an area.
equator	An imaginary line drawn around the middle of Earth, dividing it into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.
tropical	Hot and humid.
temperate	Mild weather. Neither very hot nor very cold.
capital city	An important city, often where the government works.
currency	The money used in a country.
cuisine	Traditional food of a country.
aerial	Seen from above.

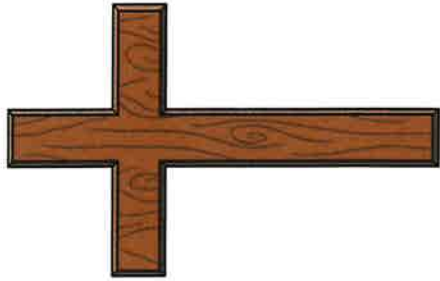
Climate	Planning a Journey
Countries around the world have different climates . Climates can be sorted into the following zones: warm, cold (or polar), tropical and temperate . Countries near the equator tend to have a hotter climate . Different animals are better suited to living in countries with a particular climate .	When people plan a journey, they might use maps and a compass to help them. You can record a journey on a map using a journey line.



Europe	Landmarks	Continent Facts
France is in Europe. Its capital city is Paris. The currency of France is the euro and the national language is French. The climate in France is mostly temperate . Visitors to France can enjoy the French cuisine , such as croissants and landmarks like the Arc De Triomphe.	We can look at aerial photos of places and see different features. Some of these are made (or changed) by humans, others are natural (made by nature).	Natural features include caves, rocks, cliffs, forests and mountains. Natural features are sometimes called 'physical features.' Features made by people include bridges, buildings and roads. These features are sometimes called 'human features.'

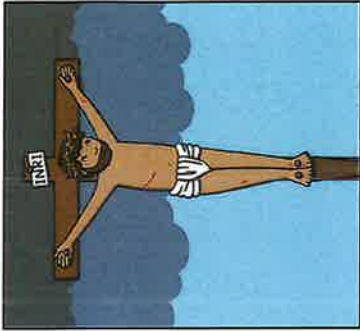


Key Vocabulary
charity
Christian
disciple
Gospel
Holy Trinity
parable
permanent



Who Is God?

Christians believe that God is the creator of the universe, including the heavens and the Earth. They believe that God is all-powerful and forgiving. He sent Jesus Christ, His son, to die for the forgiveness of human **sin**.



The Holy Trinity		
God the Father	God the Son	God the Spirit
God the Father refers to God being loving, kind and forgiving and watching over all living creatures. Many Christians will say the 'Our Father' prayer to thank God.	God the Son refers to Jesus Christ, who came to Earth as a man. Although Jesus is the Son of God, he is also God in human form. Christians believe that Jesus died for the forgiveness of human sin .	The Holy Spirit refers to God's power in action and the impact of His force. It is not a person, but a divine force that, Christians believe, created the universe and everything in it.

The cross is the most important symbol of Christianity. It represents the sacrifice made by Jesus when he was crucified.

Key Vocabulary		Forgiveness	God's forgiveness is free.		Christians should try to forgive others, as they have been forgiven by God.
prayer					
sin					
worship					

The Parables of Jesus		The Teachings of Jesus	
Jesus told parables to explain his teachings.		Jesus taught about the goodness of God.	Jesus taught how to be kind.
The Parable of the Good Samaritan teaches people to love their neighbour.			
The Parable of the Lost Sheep teaches that God loves everybody, no matter what they may have done.			

How Do Christians Show Their Faith?		
Worship: honouring and giving thanks to God.	Sharing the message: spreading the message of God's love.	Putting Jesus' teachings into action: showing kindness and love to others.
		