



Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter

February 2015

Dear Parents,

Kung Hei Fat Choi!

We hope you have had an enjoyable Chinese New Year break and are ready for the new term.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Thank you to all the parents who have been contacting us by email, please continue to do this and don't forget to check our Year 2 blog which will be updated regularly.

As the weather has turned wetter please ensure that all jackets, coats, fleeces are labeled as many unnamed coats are finding their way to lost property and we are unable to find their rightful owners. Please remember we have a 'no hat no play' policy all year round so ensure that your child continues to bring their named hat.

Also a polite reminder NAIS is a nut free school. Please ensure that this is strictly followed for the safety of all our children, this includes Nutella related products which contain Hazelnuts.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

ENGLISH

This half term we will be continuing our work on information texts. We will also be reading and enjoying riddles; we are going to work out how they are written, what their features are and then use this information to write our own riddles. In our work on Fantasy Stories children will learn about different characters and how to compare settings. We will have a writing focus on using adjectives; using conjunctions (and, or, but) to join sentences and using conjunctions (when, if, because) to add subordinate clauses.



MATHEMATICS

The areas we will cover in Maths during the remainder of the term include: recognising reflective symmetry and completing a symmetrical pattern, reading scales, estimating and measuring length, estimating and measuring weight, measuring volume and capacity, choosing suitable units such as ml or L, solving word problems by choosing the correct operation, comparing amounts of time, reading time in figures and words, telling the time on analogue and digital clocks, using coins to find amounts and change, solving money word problems, collecting data in a tally chart and interpreting a pictogram and bar graph.

THEME

The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Oceans and we will be continuing with this and extending their knowledge over the coming half-term.

Geography

In Geography we will be learning about Weather. Thank you to all those who completed the weather diaries over the half-term holiday, we will be looking at these and sharing them in class. As part of the topic we will be focusing on the different types of weather and researching how a variety of symbols are used to represent weather on maps. The children will then apply their knowledge to create their own weather forecast.

History

In History we will be researching and learning about a variety of explorers. Some that travelled the Oceans such as Ernest Shackleton and Christopher Columbus and other great explorers such as Neil Armstrong. We will be ordering the different Explorers on a time line and finding out about their expeditions, struggles and triumphs.

Science

In science we have spent a lot of time learning about the Ocean and its inhabitants. We will now begin to explore food sources and introduce how these are structured in the animal world through food chains. The children will also consider why it is important to protect the ocean and why it might be at risk.

MANDARIN

In Year 2, children will be introduced to the following skills through various activities.

Beginner pupils will learn vocabulary relating to clothes and their body parts. At the same time, they are learning more phonics and radicals in which help them to learn the characters independently.



Intermediate pupils will be about to talk more topics in Mandarin, including animals, weather, food and drinks. They will learn how to read and write more Chinese characters to describe the topics above. They will also be encouraged to participate into different Mandarin learning games and feel more confident to present based on a topic in front of the whole class.

Advanced pupils will be learning more Chinese words and expressions on the topic of 'theme parks.' Pupils will learn, through role play activities, how to make friends and express their feelings confidently in Chinese. They will learn to write words relating to this and the theme park topic. Pupils will also learn how to comprehend a long passage and produce a short paragraph in Chinese.

MUSIC

Year 2 will be engaged in music activities linked to school and pastoral themes and the "Oceans" year group theme. They will use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes. They will also play tuned and untuned instruments musically and listen with concentration and understanding to a range of music. They will experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the dimensions of music.

DRAMA

Pupils will continue their "Oceans" topic in their drama lessons where they will be exploring some popular myths, legends and stories about the sea and developing their own creative performances inspired by these.

ART

Year 2 classes will continue to explore their theme of Oceans and Habitats as they create their own fantasy sea creature. Pupils will have the opportunity to design a creature by selecting body parts from different fish and mammals. They will further develop their understanding and use of a variety of media as they add colour and pattern to their design.

PE

Pupils will develop fundamental movement skills whilst taking part in net games and striking and fielding activities. Pupils will take part in increasingly challenging situations and will improve their hand to eye co-ordination. Focus will be placed on improving striking techniques and body awareness for fielding and defending.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at the email addresses listed below if you have any questions or concerns.



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