



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

Termly Curriculum Information for Parents - Year 2

What your child will be learning about this spring term and how you can help at home

Reading:

In Year 2, the children will develop their phonics decoding skills and knowledge, building on the work done in Year 1. Using the *Little Wandle* scheme, the children will have daily, systematic phonics lessons, learning phonic strategies such as sounding out and blending to read unfamiliar words.

In Year 2, there will be an increased focus on your child's level of comprehension (understanding what they are reading). The children will be asked questions orally during and after texts they read. This term, the children will be reading the following texts: *The Princess and the White Bear King*, by Tanya Robyn Batt and *Man on the Moon*, by Simon Bartram.

Writing:

Year 2 will continue to be encouraged to write for a purpose, e.g. stories, recounts, posters, poems, descriptions, reports and instructions. The children must be able to plan a piece of writing using their own independent writing skills. We will continue to focus on handwriting and punctuation, encouraging the children to check their own work to improve it.

The children will also learn about the structure and features of non-fiction writing: they will write reports based on their learning in history and instructions based on their science learning.

Grammar:

The children will learn the difference between the past and present tense and apply this to their own writing. The children will also learn how to join clauses using a range of conjunctions, e.g. *and, or, but, because* etc.

How you can help:

Visit your local library and borrow story books which are set in school, at home or another setting your child may know. Continue to share and enjoy a range of stories with your child, asking them key questions about characters and settings. Practise writing simple sentences, encouraging your child to use correct formation of letters and punctuation, e.g. finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. Take time out to enjoy reading to your child. You can also join your library for free.



Maths

In maths, this term, Year 2 will be focusing on the following learning objectives:

Number: Multiplication and Division

Recalling and using multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers; Solving problems involving multiplication and division, using materials, arrays, repeated addition, mental methods, and multiplication and division facts.

Measurement: Money

Year 2 will learn to recognise the symbols for pounds (£) and pence (p) and use different coins to make the same amount; and they will solve practical addition and subtraction money problems, including giving change.

Measurement: Length and Height

Choosing and using appropriate standard units to estimate and measure length/height in any direction (m/cm) to the nearest appropriate unit, using rulers; comparing and ordering lengths and recording the results using $>$, $<$ and $=$

Measurement: Mass, Capacity and Temperature

Choosing and using appropriate standard units to estimate and measure mass (kg/g) to the nearest appropriate unit, using scales, thermometers and measuring vessels; and comparing and ordering mass, volume/capacity and record the results using $>$, $<$ and $=$

How you can help: By the end of Year 2, the children should know the **2, 5 and 10 times tables** ($4 \times 2 = 8$, $7 \times 10 = 70$ etc.) and related division facts ($8 \div 2 = 4$, $70 \div 10 = 7$ etc.) Please support your child with learning these facts: chant tables together; ask them quick fire questions.

Science

Uses of everyday materials

Year 2 will be learning to identify and name a variety of materials e.g. paper, cardboard, tissue, wood, metal and plastic. The children will also be learning to match materials to their common uses e.g. wood for a door; brick for building a house. Working scientifically, Year 2 will learning to explore the suitability of materials, e.g. *What is the best material for a spoon? Why are homes built of brick?* Year 2 will also be comparing materials, learning to understand how they can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

Animals including humans

Year 2 will be learning about life cycles and the needs of living things, observing and recording the lifecycle of a chicken. The children will be learning to understand that animals have a life cycle and offspring that grow into adults (e.g. eggs - chicks - chickens; egg – tadpole – froglet - frog). Year 2 will also be learning that animals have basic needs to survive.

Visit www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z6svr82 for a selection of science videos.

Religious Education

Galilee to Jerusalem: The children will learn about the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist, what miracles are and the parable of the Lost Sheep.

Desert to Galilee: Children will explore the experience of joy and sacrifice when giving. They will learn about Lent and the Holy Week as an opportunity to turn towards what is good in preparation for Easter.

How you can help: practise making the sign of the cross and saying the Hail Mary prayer by heart.

Computing

This term, Year 2 will learn about **online safety**: the children will be learning to choose age appropriate games and websites.

Year 2 will also be learning about **digital literacy**: the children will be learning to plan an online game, using the programme 2DIY 3D. Year 2 will be learning to add enhanced features (audio and animation) to their online game and how to publish their work to a blog. The children will also be writing an email to invite specific people to evaluate their online games.

How you can help: Have a conversation with your child about being safe online. For some informative and age appropriate videos to start conversations, visit the following website: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5_7/



History

Famous Women Through History

This term, Year 2 will be learning about the time, place, lives and achievements of a range of **famous and remarkable women through history**, and how they have influenced the world we live in today. The children will be learning to explain the changes that Florence Nightingale made to hospitals and they will be comparing the lives and work of Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale. Year 2 will also be learning to understand that Emmeline Pankhurst helped to win women the right to vote as well as the huge contribution Marie Curie made to medicine.

Geography

This term, Year 2 will be learning to understand **what a continent is** and to locate the 7 continents of the world. The children will be learning to use an atlas to locate the five **oceans**. The children will also be learning about the climate and landscape at the two poles and around the equator. Year 2 will also be learning to understand what the landscape is like in deserts, and they will be writing a report, comparing different environments in the world.

PE

Year 2 will need to come to school dressed in their PE kits on **Tuesday**.

Year 2 will take part in a variety of sports activities specifically focussing on gymnastics and dance this term.

Music

This term, Year 2 will be singing a wider variety of songs with more complex structures, at performance standard. The children will also be learning about great classical composers, e.g. Handel and Bach, and listening to their music. They will also be creating music using tuned instruments (keyboards, xylophones and glockenspiels).

Spanish

The children will be studying the following topics in this term's Spanish lessons, led by our specialist Spanish teacher: shapes; colours; numbers; family; body parts; school; and parts of the face.

Art and design

Sculpture (Under the Sea)

This term, Year 2 will be learning to explore clay: the children will be learning to model with clay, to apply clay techniques and to paint on clay sculptures.

Printing (Roller and Ink Techniques)

This term, Year 2 will be learning techniques for printing – using rollers and ink. The children will be learning the following techniques: using their fingers to print; using a roller to print; blending two colours of ink; polyprinting with ballpoint markings; and using objects to print.

Design Technology

The children will be exploring, designing, creating and evaluating **kites** in their unit of work about structures.

Food Technology

Year 2 will be learning about the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet. The children will also use a range of cooking techniques to prepare **veggie fajitas**.

PSHCE

In **Keeping Safe Studies**, Year 2 will be learning about self-care and first aid, being safe online and managing their emotions. The children will also learn the following: to explain how to keep safe around fire hazards; to identify the risks associated with fire; to explore gender stereotypes; to identify the qualities of a good friend; to understand and learn the PANTS rule and to understand that they have the right to say 'no' to unwanted touch.

How you can help: Talk to your child about how to keep safe in different situations.

How can I help at home?

Make it clear that you value homework – set aside a specific time and area for your child to work on their homework.

Encourage your child to **read a variety of texts**, not just books from school.

Listen to your child read and ask them **questions** about the text to help their understanding. Encourage your child to sound out words that they are unable to read by using their **phonics**. Remind them to look out for digraphs (a single sound made up of 2 letters) when sounding out e.g. **sh-e-ll**, instead of s-h-e-l-l.

Encourage your child to apply their **addition and subtraction** skills in **real-life scenarios** e.g. ask them to 'pay' for an item and then work out if there is any change.

Help your child practise their **2, 5 and 10 times tables**.

Help your child to be organised:

- ◇ Have you got your **book bag**? Needs to be in school **every day**.
- ◇ Are **ALL** your reading books inside it?
- ◇ Have you completed your **homework**? Homework should be completed by **Thursday**.
- ◇ Make sure you come into school in your **PE kits** on **Tuesday**.

