



Autumn 1 2021
Half Term Information for Parents
Year 2

Happy children aiming high

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a lovely summer and it is fantastic to see everyone again. This information sheet tells you about what your child will be learning over the course of this half term, and will make clear how this learning links to our curriculum theme of 'aspirations'. We hope that you find it useful.

Themes: Autumn – Aspirations. What do you want to achieve when you grow up?

English (Writing and Reading):

Children will learn aspects of spelling, punctuation and grammar in their lessons which they will then be given the opportunity to apply in their written work. They will also explore the structure of various pieces of writing, across a range of genres thinking about the structure and different features which apply to the different genres and will consider how this structure is useful and appropriate. Children will be given a wide range of opportunities to write at length in a range of contexts.

Children will also be able to use their imagination to write stories, diary extracts and poems amongst many other genres. Children will be taught to plan their writing using frames and story maps/mountains to organise their thoughts and ideas in a collective way. They will be taught to draft and edit their own work to continue to improve and develop their writing.

Through guided reading sessions and focused reading lessons within the curriculum, children will develop a greater fluency and confidence in their reading by reading a wide range of texts, both fiction and non-fiction. Children will be able to answer questions about a text they have read and explain their answers to the group. Children will predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far. Children will participate in discussions about books, poems and other works that are read to them and those that they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say.

Spelling: children will continue to apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words until automatic decoding has become embedded and reading is fluent.

Children will learn spelling rules through Suffixes including –ment, –ness, –ful, –less, –ly, ing, ed etc. Also apply a range of spelling rules and guidelines. Children will practise these spelling rules and suffixes. Children will also learn to spell common exception words for year 2 and words with contracted form don't, can't, shouldn't, wouldn't, won't, we'll, she'll, he'll, they'll, wasn't etc.

Writing: The children will write about what they aspire to be when they are older. The children will also get an opportunity to write about what they got up to in the summer holidays and their favourite aspects. Through the use of class texts and shared reading, there will be a range of writing opportunities including poems, character/setting descriptions and short narratives.

Maths:

Children will begin by exploring aspects of the previous years' content to consolidate and build confidence in these areas. The children will consolidate numbers to 20, then to 50 before moving onto numbers to 100. The children will then explore place value to 20 and 50. Tens and ones. Comparing numbers to 100 and tens and ones in numbers to 100. Ordering objects and numbers. Then the children will explore 2s, 5s and 10s confidently and in greater depth before moving onto learning 3 times tables.

Number and place value:

Children will learn to count in steps of 2, 3, 5 and 10 from 0, and in tens from any number, forward and backward and they will learn to recognise the place value of each digit in a two-digit number (tens, ones). Children will identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations, including the number line. Children will also learn to compare and order numbers from 0 up to 100; use $<$, $>$ and $=$ signs and read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and in words. Finally children will use place value and number facts to solve problems.

Addition and subtraction:

Children will be taught to solve problems with addition and subtraction: Children will be using concrete objects and pictorial representations, including those involving numbers, quantities and measures and will develop the ability to apply their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods, recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and derive and use related facts up to 100. Children will also learn to add and subtract numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: A two-digit number and ones, a two-digit number and tens, two two-digit numbers.

Children will also learn to add three one-digit numbers and show that addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot. Children will recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and solve missing number problems.

Children will conduct maths practically and in a written form and in a range of environments both indoors and outdoors utilising spaces to engage year 2 in maths.

STEM Science:

The children will work in a hands-on way utilising the outdoors to explore different materials and their uses. They will have the opportunity to explore the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses. Children will learn the different properties of materials and explore these in detail through discussion. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate and design a challenge for Ant and Dec and a new football strip, thinking about suitable materials and designing items. Children will look at different materials in and around school but also materials found in other places as well.

ICT: children will explore digital images by taking photos and exploring editing skills through the use of the ipads. Children will also begin to explore how video games work.

E-Safety:

Staying safe online: children will be able to talk about how to keep safe on the internet and what information is to keep private and why this is important. Children will link their ICT E-Safety learning to NHFS 'zip it, block it, flag it' icons. Children will think about what is personal information of which we keep to ourselves and do not share to strangers (such as our school or home address online). Children will understand that not everyone is who they say they are online and always to be mindful when online and the next steps to take if they discover something they dislike – tell adults, block it, don't click on unknown links etc. Children will learn to follow important internet safety rules. We will also be continuing to use School 360 as a platform for learning tools and we will also be starting to use 'Times Tables Rockstars' (TT Rockstars) to practise their times tables. I will send home children's logins for 360 and TT Rockstars.

History and Geography:

Through History and humanities children will explore aspirations of Famous People: Brian Burnie (wealth), Malala Yousafzai (mankind) and Ant and Dec (fame). Children will consider the different aspirational goals of a wide variety of people from around the world, some locally and others further afield. The children will look in detail into the achievements of a variety of famous figures across Newcastle and beyond.

Children will look at their local area of New Hartley village and explore key features and compare to

Newcastle city centre using technology and ipads. The children will look at maps, atlases and globes for their local area and Newcastle. The children will look at key features of a map.

The Arts (Art and Music):

Art

Children will look at collages by using a combination of materials that are cut, torn and glued and mix materials to create texture. Children will produce several pieces of artwork during Autumn term using different materials and ways to cut, tear and glue materials. Children will create mosaic pictures of a tree silhouette and the background will be red, orange and yellow squares to create mosaic.

Music

When working with Mrs Smith on a Thursday, children will use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes. Children will also have the opportunity to play tuned and untuned instruments musically. Children will develop the skills to listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music and experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the interrelated dimensions of music.

RE

Children will look into questions about meaning and purposes in life, beliefs about God, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human. In RE they will learn about and from different religions and world views in local, national and global contexts to discover and explore/consider different answers to these questions. The children will learn about Christianity, community and lifestyles.

PE:

Through the Newcastle United Foundation children will build on fundamental movements such as running, jumping, speed, agility, static and dynamic balance when playing games using different pieces of equipment such as balls, hoops, bean bags etc.

Children will learn to travel around a space in a variety of ways: Running, skipping, avoiding other children when changing directions and looking for space, bouncing, jumping, stretching and reaching for things. Children will learn to move in a variety of moods, if you are tired/hot/cold etc. by exploring personal space and general space. Dance routine – Let's get ready to rumble –Ant and Dec. Children will choreograph and learn dance moves to Ant and Dec's musical number.

PE will be on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Children will need to come to school in their PE kit.

Children will need to dress for the weather and wear a plain t-shirt of their house colour.

PSHE: Many themes will be covered through incidental opportunities, whole school assemblies as well as class assemblies. Children will learn Rights and responsibilities about contributing to life in the classroom, constructing and following rules, awareness of needs of people and other living things and belonging to communities and groups. There will also be a heavy focus on feelings and discussions during PSHE with lots of opportunities for the children to talk and share.

How can you help?

- Sharing a story at home with your child is a great way to encourage children to read.
- Frequent reading of your child school book (for example 3 times a week) is important to help your child develop confidence, fluency and practise of recognising sight words, thinking about expression, asking questions about their reading etc.

Homework

Whilst this term there will be no homework as such, we will be learning spellings in school on a weekly basis. These will be sent home and the children can practise reading, spelling and using the spellings in writing. We will also be starting to use TT Rockstars to practise times tables. We will introduce this in school and will share how to access it at home. This is a fun and engaging way for children to practise recall of multiplication and division facts to develop number fluency and confidence as a building block for maths.

I will also be sharing a 'challenge question' at different points of the term. This will be an open ended question linked to our topics which children can interpret, think about and answer in any way they like. This is not compulsory but it is a great way to get involved with learning outside of school and make links with topics to as a hook for learning in school.

Visits/Visitors

During this topic children will visit:

- Possible visit around New Hartley village TBC.