



Year 2 Autumn 1

Hello and welcome to Year 2! We hope you have all had a lovely summer break and are ready for an exciting first half term. We have lots to look forward to as the children settle into their new class, learn new routines and begin their Year 2 journey. This half term, our geography topic is **Continents and Oceans**.

Topic overview:

Science: Habitats

Geography: Continents and Oceans. Where are we in the world?

PSHE: Me and My Relationships

Art: Sketching
Vincent Van Gogh

RE: Special Places - Mandir and Hinduism

Computing: Online Safety - Health, Wellbeing and Lifestyle
Computing Systems and Networks - IT Around Us

PE: Run, Jump, Throw and Gymnastics

Music: Dragons - Dynamics and Tempo

What is this topic about?

This half term, our learning will have a geography focus as we explore our wonderful world. The children will learn to name and locate the seven continents and five oceans, using maps and globes to develop their geographical skills. In science, we will explore living things and their habitats, looking at a range of habitats around the world and the plants and animals that live within them.

Our writing will be inspired by *Emma Jane's Aeroplane*, as we follow Emma Jane on her exciting journey across different continents and discover famous landmarks along the way. This will link to our art learning, where the children will explore Vincent van Gogh's *The Starry Night* before creating their own artwork inspired by his style, incorporating some of the landmarks we have discovered.



Key messages:

This half term, children will have both indoor and outdoor PE. Please send a full PE kit in on Monday to remain in school all week. Kits can be taken home on Fridays for washing.

Year 2 booster sessions will begin in the second full week. Please look out for correspondence if your child is invited to attend. These sessions are a valuable way to build confidence and close gaps in learning.

As always, please speak to us if you have any questions or need support. We are always here to help!

Key dates:

Wednesday 9th September - Teddy Bear Day
Friday 11th September - Meet the Teacher 8:45am in Sycamore Class
Thursday 17th September Pass Out Parade
Tuesday 22nd September - Flu vaccinations
Thursday 24th September - Individual school photos
Wednesday 30th September - School Nurse Appointments
Thursday 8th October - Yr 1 & 2 Reading Workshop 8:45am - 9:30am
Wednesday 7th - Friday 9th October - Book Fair
Tuesday 20th October - Harvest Festival
Friday 23rd October: INSET Day
Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October: Half Term
Monday 2nd November - INSET Day

NEXT HALF TERM: TRIP TO FORT NELSON TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER.



Online safety:

A new school year is a great time to review your family's screen-time and online routines. Simple habits, such as keeping devices out of bedrooms at night, agreeing when and where technology can be used, and regularly talking about what children are doing online, can make a big difference.

Remember, many games, apps and social media platforms have age restrictions that are there to help protect children. We encourage parents and carers to check age ratings and parental controls before allowing children to access new games or apps.

For helpful, practical advice, visit **Internet Matters**, which has guides to popular games and apps as well as step-by-step instructions for setting up parental controls.



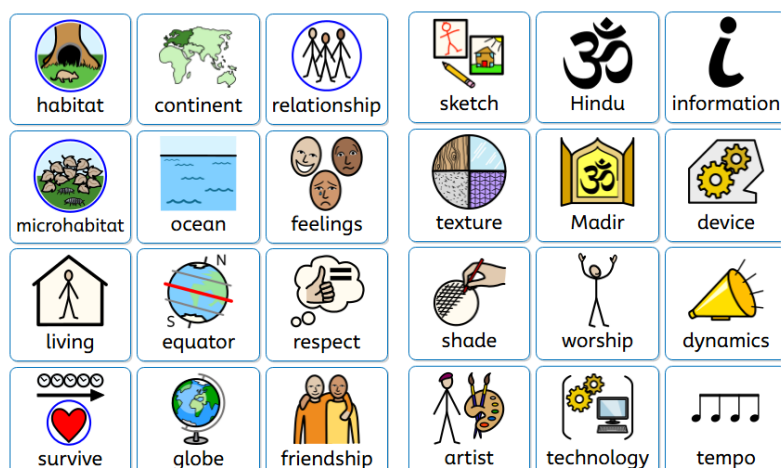
Homework for this term:

Please support your child's learning at home by completing the following each week:

- **Reading - at least 3 times per week.** Please record and sign each read in your child's yellow reading record. If your child is still progressing through our phonics programme, please prioritise their phonics reading book.
- **Spellings - practise weekly.** Your child's spellings will be provided in their reading record. Please practise these regularly at home.
- **NumBots - practise 3 times per week.** Short, regular sessions will help your child to develop their number fluency and confidence.
- **Maths homework - complete the weekly maths homework sheet.** This will give your child an opportunity to practise and consolidate the Maths learning we have been working on in school.

Thank you for your continued support with your child's learning at home.

Key Vocabulary:



Children's toys and items from home:

Please support the school by ensuring that children are not bringing in any items from home such as toys, pencil cases and elaborate key chains etc. Toys can easily become lost or damaged and often cause disagreements between children. The school will not take responsibility for personal items. Thank you for your support in helping us keep a calm and happy learning environment.



Marlborough Smart uniform reminders:

We know the impact that pride in our uniform has on the pupils' learning attitude. We ask for your support in ensuring that children are Marlborough Smart by ensuring they are in the correct uniform each day.

Please see below some key reminders:

- Children are only permitted to wear one pair of earrings which must be studs. These must be removed or covered with tape provided on PE days.
- Children should be wearing black or grey school trousers/ skirt/ dress daily. **Leggings and jogging bottoms are not permitted.**
- Children should wear a white polo shirt which is different from their PE top.
- Nail polish and temporary tattoos must be removed before coming to school.
- Hair which is shoulder length or longer must be tied up.
- A blue cardigan or jumper should be worn in school. Hoodies are not part of the uniform policy.
- Your child needs to wear plain, black shoes. Please see some examples below. Contact us if you're not sure.
- For PE, your child should have a white plain t-shirt, black shorts or leggings and suitable trainers. Joggers are permitted for outdoor PE.

