



West Hill Primary School
(a partner in the SMILE Learning Trust)
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Friday 1st May 2026

CLASS 2 SUMMER TERM CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you've all had a relaxing Easter break. Detailed below are the new and exciting learning opportunities for Class 2 this term.

English

This term, Year 2 will be exploring a range of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. Much of our writing will link to our geography topic, The Amazon Rainforest, as well as the text The Kapok Tree by Lynne Cherry.

Our spelling/punctuation/grammar this term:

1. Extending sentences using the conjunctions: and, but, or, because, if, when, that
2. Continuing to practise writing a range of different sentence types (i.e. statements, questions, commands, exclamations)
3. Using extended noun phrases
4. Using adverbs to describe verbs
5. For some children, paragraphing to keep similar ideas together
6. Practising the correct choice and consistent use of present and past tense
7. Continuing to work on spelling rules, including words with prefixes/suffixes
8. Increasing knowledge of Year 2 common exception words (please see attached sheet)

Year 2 children will also take part in a weekly reading comprehension lesson, as well as guided reading sessions. In addition, they will have weekly handwriting lessons, with a focus on developing joined writing.

Maths

Year 2 will continue to build on their number skills, working with numbers up to 100 and beyond. They will explore a range of strategies for adding and subtracting two-digit numbers, both mentally and using written methods. There will also be a strong focus on applying reasoning skills to solve problems.

Other areas of learning will include number and place value, position and direction (including right angles, clockwise and anti-clockwise turns, and giving directions), multiplication and division, temperature, statistics, fractions, and time.

Science

This term, Year 2 will study Living Things and their Habitats. They will learn to distinguish between living, dead, and never-living things, and explore how habitats meet the needs of plants and animals. Children will identify a variety of plants and animals, including those in micro-habitats, and understand how living things depend on each other. They will also be introduced to simple food chains and how animals obtain their food.



Computing

Year 2 will continue to use the educational platform, Espresso Coding, to input sets of instructions (algorithms). We will continue to use technology, such as Chromebooks, to reinforce our learning across the curriculum and to promote good e-safety.

Geography

Our topic this Term will be the Amazon Rainforest. We will be looking at where in the world the major rainforests are, weather/climate, the equator, layers of the rainforests, deforestation and the humans and animals that live there.

Art and Design

Year 2 will explore the work of Henri Rousseau, linking to their rainforest topic. Children will create their own artwork using sketching, painting, collage, and pastels. After half-term, they will develop sewing skills, leading to the design, creation, and evaluation of their own glove puppets.

RE

Year 2 will continue to learn about Islam, including key beliefs and ways of life for Muslims. They will explore the Shahadah and the 99 names of Allah, hear stories about the Prophet Muhammad, and consider what these teach Muslims today. In addition, pupils will learn about what makes some places special to believers, focusing on how and why certain places are important in different religions.

PE

The topics for this term are Run, Jump, Throw (athletics) and Send and Return (tennis games). Year 2 will also be doing some practising for sports day.

Music

This half-term, Year 2 will be exploring pulse, duration and rhythm using a variety of tuned and percussion instruments.

PSHE

This term we will be starting our new scheme of work: Jigsaw, beginning with the *Healthy Me* unit. This will cover healthy eating, staying safe at home and outside, as well as medicine safety.

Homework

Again, like the previous terms, the Voluntary Curriculum Homework sheet will be sent home as part of enrichment for learning. Children will earn 5 house points for each piece of work they complete and hand in. The work handed in will also be on display in our classroom. Although this is **entirely voluntary**, I would like you to encourage your child to find an activity from the list they'll enjoy doing for each term.

Thank you as always for your continued positivity and support, and please don't hesitate to contact me about any concerns.

Here's hoping for lots of sunny weather this half term!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs F Collin

Key Vocabulary

Year 2 Common Exception Words

rainforest

tropical

temperate

location

equator

Northern Hemisphere

Southern Hemisphere

weather

climate

wildlife

emergent

understory

canopy

forest floor

habitats

food chain

living

dead

never been alive

suited

suitable

basic needs

shelter

name of local habitats (pond, woodland etc.)

name of micro habitats (under logs, in bushes etc.)

door

floor

poor

because

find

kind

mind

behind

child

children

wild

climb

most

only

both

old

cold

gold

hold

told

every

everybody

even

great

break

steak

pretty

beautiful

after

fast

last

past

father

class

grass

pass

plant

path

bath

hour

move

prove

improve

sure

sugar

eye

could

should

would

who

whole

any

many

clothes

busy

people

water

again

half

money

Mr

Mrs

parents