OUR LEARNING YEAR 2 AUTUMN 2025

This document provides an overview of the learning your child will engage in this term. It highlights their learning journey, core knowledge, and the key vocabulary they will encounter. It is a handy guide to support learning conversations with your child. What learning can they remember?

Topic Concept: Social Justice and Equity

As part of this topic children will learn about responsible citizenship, equality and justice

Big Question: Is it Fair?

We often explore this question through various approaches, such as reading books and engaging in debates about the theme

Our 'Preparation Skills' will be:

Problem solving
Positive thinking
Resilience

SCIENCE - Animals, including humans

Children will build on their Year 1 learning about the different categories of animals, especially humans as mammals, by comparing the life cycles of humans to that of a butterfly. Children will learn how to be physically healthy by learning about different food groups, a balanced diet and nutrition, the importance of exercise and the impact of good hygiene. Children will put their knowledge together to create a poster about being physically healthy and include their wider knowledge, for example by caring for your wellbeing.

-A life cycle is a series of changes in the life of a living thing.
-The human life processes are baby, toddler, child, teenager and adult.
-There are 5 food groups: carbohydrates, protein, dairy, fruit and vegetables, fats and sugars.
-Nutrition is about how our bodies get what they need to function from food and drink.
-A balanced diet has a good balance of protein, vitamins and minerals, calcium, carbohydrates, sugar and fats. Each of these do different jobs in the body.
-Hygiene is any practice or activity that you do to keep things healthy and clean.
-Germs spread from touch and the air.
-Exercise is important because it keeps your body healthy.
-Sleep is important because it keeps your body and mind healthy.

Vocabulary: Life cycle, human, life processes, mammal, grow, baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult, insect, bird, reptile, fish, amphibian, compare, insect, antennae, egg, larva, caterpillar, pupa, chrysalis, butterfly, metamorphosis, nutrition, carbohydrate, protein, dairy, fruit, vegetable, fat, sugar, classify, sort, healthy, balance, diet, food groups, oil, fibre, germs, hygiene, prediction, method, result, conclusion, observation, unhygienic, maintain, shower, bathe, exercise, heart, pulse, sleep, rest, routine, relax

MUSIC - South African Music, Christmas

This term children will listen to and appraise traditional music from South Africa (link to BHM and History learning of Nelson Mandela and Esther Mahlangu in Art). Children will learn the song 'Hands, Feet, Heart' written by Joanna Mangona to celebrate and learn about South African Music. They will learn the notes G, A and C and accompany the song by playing the glockenspiel, percussion instruments and singing. Children will learn about other traditional South African Music, including the The Click Song or Qongqothwane.

-Pulse is the steady beat of music
-Tempo is the speed of a piece of music.
-Pitch is how high or low a sound is.
-Pulse is a steady beat, like a ticking clock.
-Rhythm is the pattern of long and short sounds.
-A glockenspiel is a small portable percussion instrument consisting of metal bars played with 2 hammers.
-The name glockenspiel comes from the German language and means "to play the bells".
-The glockenspiel has a soft sound with a very high pitch.

Vocabulary: Pulse, steady beat, rhythm, long, short, sounds, instrument, percussion, body percussion, clap, tap, click, South Africa, inspire, untuned percussion, accompany, pitch, high, low, glockenspiel, beater, notes, Qongqothwane, tempo, speed, fast, slow, glockenspiel

ART and DESIGN - South African art

As a link to their learning of black history, children will be inspired by the life and work of South African artist Esther Mahlangu. Children will explore pattern and the idea of colour symbolism to convey meaning and feelings. Children will continue to develop their drawing skills and build on their knowledge of portraits to create a portrait of Nelson Mandela using their own chosen drawing media. Children will create a 3d mask and painting inspired by traditional South African masks.

-Art is a celebration of different cultures, and we can use art to learn more about people, communities and places.
-A portrait is a painting, drawing or photograph of a person/yourself.
-Lines are the edges of a form. Lines can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal, straight or curved, thick or thin.
-Shade or shading is the darkening or colouring of a drawing with lines or blocks of colour.
-A 2d image is flat which has height and width but you can't turn it round or look behind it (no depth).
-Something that is 3d has height, width and depth. You can pick it up and see all around it.
-Esther Mahlangu is one of South Africa's best known artists.
- Patterns can be simple like a checkerboard or complex like the branches of a tree.
-Colour symbolism describes the meaning of a certain colour.
-The traditional African mask is worn during celebrations, dances and festivities and ritual ceremonies commemorating social and religious events.

Vocabulary: Draw, sketch, line, mark making, shading, cross hatch, direction, build, darkening, diagonal, horizontal, vertical, texture, portrait, landscape, evaluate, pattern, design, checkerboard, complex, vibrant, A4,, precise, outline, 2D, traditional, ritual, ceremony, terracotta, pottery, bronze, brass, copper, ivory, leather, identity, disguise, spirits, culture, diversity, 3D, form, symbolism, embellish, decorate, refine, raffia

RE - What makes some places sacred? How and why do we celebrate special times?

Children will build on their knowledge of Christians and Muslims and think about how they practice their faith, with a focus on exploring their sacred places. Children will have the opportunity to visit the local mosque to learn what muslims do there. Children will begin to recognise the similarities between the faiths and practices and learn that not everybody practices their faith in exactly the same way. Children will look at celebrations across faiths by learning about Harvest, Diwali and Christmas.

-Belonging is a sense of fitting in or feeling like you are an important member of a group.
-Religion is what you believe about human beings' relationship to a higher power (such as a god), and faith is being confidently sure about something even if you cannot see it.
-A church is a building used for Christian worship.
-A mosque also called a masjid is a place of worship for Muslims.
-The Harvest Festival reminds Christians of all the good things God gives them. This makes them want to share with others who are not so fortunate.
-Diwali is the five-day Festival of Lights, celebrated by millions of Hindus, Sikhs and Jains across the world. Diwali is a festival of new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness.
-Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ.
-Many non-Christians also enjoy Christmas all over the world.

Vocabulary: Belonging, religion, Christians, Muslims, believe, God, higher power, respect, opinion, special, sacred, holy, worship, church, mosque, temple, gurdwara, chapel, cathedral, synagogue, symbol, nave, symbolise, ark, Bible, Islam, dome, minaret, ablution area, mihrab, Mecca, Imam, wudu, minbar, Allah, Qur'an, Hajj, muezzin, hijab, service, practice, praise, hymn, sermon, preach, prayer, baptism, christening, wedding, funeral, celebration, Holy Communion, font, bell tower, stained glass, prophet, pew, vicar, choir, altar, organ

COMPUTING - Internet searching, online safety and spreadsheets

Children will learn how to safely search the internet to retrieve information. Children will build on their previous knowledge of spreadsheets to store and manipulate information that has been gathered. Children will learn about being safe and considerate with the use of the information and continue to develop their typing skills. As part of ongoing learning in Computing each lesson involves an online safety part exploring the world of the internet and how to keep safe.

-A laptop is a small portable computer that you can use on your lap or desk to carry out Information Technology tasks.
-A touchpad is a small, flat surface on a laptop that you can touch with your finger to move the cursor on the screen and perform actions.
-A keyboard is a set of keys that you press to input letters, numbers, and commands into a computer.
-It is important that we 'log out' of a computer so others can't access our work and information.
-The internet is actually a network. A network is a group of computers that are connected together to transfer information from place to place. These connections extend all over the globe in a variety of ways.
-Online Searching is when you look for information online (in a database or the World Wide Web) using a search engine.
-Online Sharing is when you post or repost information on the Internet, usually on a website or app.
-The term 'Digital Footprint' refers to the information about a person that exists on the Internet as a result of their online activity.
-You should not post personal information about yourself online.
-Spreadsheets are used to store and organise information.
-The term 'data' refers to a collection of information that can be used to solve problems and help us to understand things better.
-Spreadsheets are used to store and organise information.
-When using spreadsheets, rows are boxes that run horizontally.
-When using spreadsheets, columns are boxes running vertically.
-Cells are individual sections of a spreadsheet grid that contain data or calculations.

Online Safety

-Avatars are like a cartoon version of someone that a person can customise such as hair, clothes and other accessories.
-If someone experiences negative feelings online, it is important that they get help.
-We need to be able to keep ourselves safe online, just like we do in the real world.
-It is important to check that you have permission to share information online.
-Ask an adult if you are ever unsure.
-If something happens that you did not give your consent for you can: speak to your parents/carers, ask someone to help with your privacy settings, speak to a teacher or someone at school.
-We should respect other people's choices and decisions about their consent and permission.
-People can be bullied in lots of different ways, including verbal, physical, social and cyber.
-We should keep our personal information private.
-There are many different types of search engine. Kiddle is safe for children to use.
-Some things we see or hear are 'made-up', 'make believe' or untrue.
-You own the things you create on the internet/computer.

Vocabulary:
Trusted adult, alert, notification, device, search, filter, file name, login, password, private, avatar, saving, log out, behaviour, privacy settings, personal information, evaluate, permission, resource, key, keyboard, touch typing, home keys, button, menu, file, save, open, print, template, textbox, toolbar, instruction, algorithm, direction, left, right, challenge, undo, route, delete, command, unit, debug, debugging, symbol, row, opinions, information

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - Healthy Food Preparation

Children will build on their previous DT learning and Science understanding of what makes a healthy diet. Children will explore a range of ingredients and then make their own healthy vegetable couscous. They will prepare the ingredients by grating, peeling and using a bridge cut. As part of a longer learning journey into wheels and axles, children will explore a range of toy vehicles and their wheels. Children will explore a range of materials and experiment making fixed and free wheel axles in preparation to make a wheeled vehicle.

-A healthy, varied diet includes different food groups, such as fruits and vegetables.
-All food comes from either plants or animals.
-Our food comes from all over the world.
-Food needs to be prepared safely using techniques such chopping, grating and peeling.
-A design is a plan to make a new product.
-Design criteria are the rules or important things you need to think about when you're making something.
-A wheeled vehicle is is a mode of transportation that uses wheels to move across a surface.
-A mechanism is a system or structure of moving parts that performs some function, especially in a machine.
-An axle is a rod that goes through the centre of wheels, helping them stay in place and turn
-A wheel is a round object that helps things move.
-A chassis is the strong, flat base or frame of a car, bike, or other vehicle. It's what everything else is built on and holds all the parts together, helping it stay strong and move properly.
-There are two different types of axle, fixed and floating.
-Any vehicle that needs wheels to move has axles that hold the wheels together.
-Evaluating a product is to judge the quality of something against a design criteria and how successful it was.
-A prototype is the first try at making something.

Vocabulary: Reared, caught, grown, harvested, processed, texture, produced, couscous, vegetables, celery, carrot, pepper, cucumber, tomato, paprika, garlic, design, product, design criteria, ingredient, salad, healthy, balanced meal, claw, chop, bridge, peel, grate, mix, hygiene, evaluate, quality, change, fixed axle, free axle, wheel, chassis, frame, mechanism, vehicle, prototype, floating axle

GEOGRAPHY - Locational knowledge, the wider world, continents and oceans

Building on their knowledge and skills developed in Year 1 children will consolidate their understanding of the countries of the UK and their capital cities. Children will learn about the continents and oceans of the world. Children will have opportunities to develop their geographical skills including using compass points and directional language-hysical features are things that are are in the natural environment such as a beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea.

-Human geographical features are things that people have made or changed on the Earth's surface such as city, town, factory, farm, house, harbour
-Physical geographical features are things that are naturally found on the Earth's surface such as beach, cliff, ocean, mountain, season, weather
-The world is made up of 7 continents and 5 oceans
-A continent is a large area of land (Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America and South America)
-An ocean is a huge body of salt water (Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, Southern Ocean aka Antarctic Ocean and Arctic Ocean)
-The equator line runs roughly around the centre of our world. The closer the land to the equator, the warmer the climate and the further away the land is, the colder the climate is.
-Maps, globes and atlases help locate places around the world
-The UK is made up of 4 countries which all have a capital city: England (London), Wales (Cardiff), Scotland (Edinburgh) and Northern Ireland (Belfast)

Vocabulary: physical, beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, valley, human, city, town, village, factory, farm, house, port, harbour, shop, church, school, Arctic, Southern Ocean, Indian Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Equator, North Pole, South Pole, map, globe, atlas, Google Earth, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, hot, cold, climate, weather, continent, Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, South America, Australia, Australasia, Oceania, Scotland, Edinburgh, UK, country

Vocabulary: Before, after, past, present, then, now, chronology, timeline, contemporary, investigate, artefact, sources, primary, secondary, significant, segregation, discrimination, abolished, civil rights, equality, protests, reconcile, freedom, voting, healthcare, apartheid, human rights, global impact, change, Nobel Peace Prize, Remembrance, commemorate, Armistice, Cenotaph, civilians, veterans, anniversary, treaty

HISTORY - Nelson Mandela - Black History Month, Remembrance

Children will use a variety of sources, including music, television clips and photographs to learn about a significant individual from the recent past: Nelson Mandela (linked to our learning in Black History Month). Children will explore the concepts of primary and secondary sources and their reliability. Children will think about the impact that Nelson Mandela had on the world and explore other positive black figures in history. Children will learn about World War 1 as a significant event in history and link to Remembrance and poppies.

-Black History month is in October and is a time to remember and learn about events and people which led change in our world, and to share, celebrate and understand the impact of black heritage and culture.
-Nelson Mandela was the South African President from 1994-1999.
-Nelson Mandela had to fight for what he believed was right as black people were treated very differently because of the colour of their skin.
-Nelson Mandela spent many years in prison for standing up for the rights of black people.
-Nelson Mandela inspired many people and helped change the way people treated each other in work, education and socially.
-Remembrance Day, or Armistice Day, commemorates the anniversary of the signing of the treaty in 1918 that declared the First World War to be over.
-People wear poppies as a symbol of remembrance.
-Commemorations of Armistice Day take place all over the world.
-Remembrance day is always commemorated on the 11th November at 11am with a two minutes silence to remember all those service people who gave their lives in service to their country. (The 11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month).

PE - Throwing, catching and rolling a ball, invasion games

Children will continue to strengthen their team game skills by applying them in tag rugby. They will revisit the different methods of throwing and catching and practise these in a range of small team games. They will build towards using the tags and learning skills of invasion and avoidance. The children will end the unit with games involving the whole class in which all their learnt skills will come together. It is important warm up and cool down our bodies to avoid injuries to our muscles.

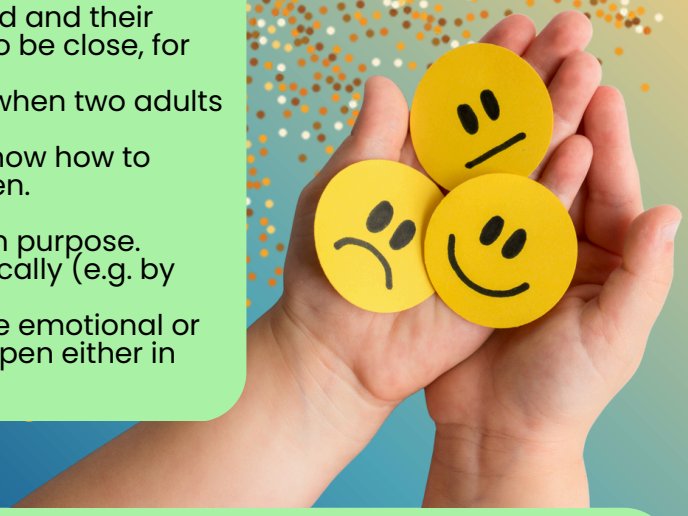
-Exercise helps our bodies stay strong, healthy, and full of energy.
-Invasion games are games in which the aim is to invade an opponent's territory and score a goal or point.
-There are different types of throws including chest, bounce pass and over-arm.
- When throwing and catching it is important to look in the direction of the throw(er) and catch(er).
-We position our hands in a 'bowl shape' ready to catch a ball.
-Underarm throwing, involves a backward-forward swing of the hand to release a ball.
-A chest pass is a pass in which the ball is quickly propelled from the chest by the hands and arms.
-A shoulder throw is a behind the back throw where the ball comes forward over the shoulder on the same side as the hand it's thrown from.
-To roll a ball, bend down low, step with your opposite foot to your rolling arm pointed forwards and let go of the ball when your hand is pointing to the target.
-The correct way to stop a ball is by placing the bottom of a foot on top of the ball.
-Sportsmanship is fair and generous behaviour or treatment of others during a sporting contest.
-Tag Rugby is a non-contact version of Rugby where players wear velcro belts with tags.
-In Tag Rugby, instead of tackling an opponent, players pull tags off of their opponents velcro tags to take the ball off of them.
-Tries are scored in Tag Rugby by placing the ball behind the try line with both hands.

Vocabulary: Throw, underarm, catch, bowl, shape, scoop, roll, bend, bounce, underarm pass, bounce pass, chest pass, shoulder pass, pass, tag, belt, tagging, sporting, passing, attacker, defender, scoring, try, tagged

PSHE - Relationships: families and friendships, safe relationships, respecting ourselves and others

Children will learn about the different relationships we have. They will learn what makes a good friend and how to play positively and resolve conflicts. Children will learn about cooperation and their similarities and differences with friends. Children will learn about recognising hurtful and bullying behaviour and who can help them if they experience it. Children will learn about comfortable and uncomfortable feelings and how they can ask for help if they need it. Children will also revisit their learning about the PANTS rules Belonging is a feeling you have when you are part of a group or community and when the other people in the group accept you for who you are.

-We all have different feelings, some we might feel every day, and others just sometimes. Our feelings can come and go, and can change over time.
-We are all different. We might have the same feeling but our bodies might react in different ways.
-We have a range of different relationships: our families, our friends.
-A relationship is where two people are connected to each other. Relationships can be close, for example between a child and their parent or their best friend but they don't always have to be close, for example between a child and their doctor.
- Some relationships are just between adults, such as when two adults are married to each other.
-Sometimes friends argue for different reasons, but I know how to manage and resolve these situations when they happen.
-We can tell our worries to trusted adults in school.
-Bullying happens when someone is repeatedly hurt on purpose.
-People can be hurt physically, by words or psychologically (e.g. by being left out at snack time).
-Hurtful behaviour refers to actions or words that cause emotional or physical harm or distress to another person. It can happen either in person or online.



Vocabulary: happy, sad, upset, angry, excited, comfortable, uncomfortable, scared, nervous, worried, confused, embarrassed, ashamed, bored, lonely, grumpy, confident, calm, proud, jealous, kindness, sharing, playing, helping, respect, caring, argue, conflict, resolve, friendship, resolution, communicate, bullying, unkind, hurtful, emotional, harm, intentional, unintentional, peer pressure, peers, convince, persuade, unsafe, choice, unsure, anger, sadness, intensity, heartbroken, thrilled, distressed, glad, furious, overjoyed, terrified, sleepy, exhausted.

WE JUST FIT.