


Year 2 Spring Overview

	Spring 1	Spring 2
English	<p>Fiction - A Rags to Riches Tale - <i>The Magic Paintbrush</i></p> <p>In this Year 2 narrative writing unit, we will explore the theme of "rags to riches" through the story of <i>The Magic Paintbrush</i>. We will learn how to structure our own rags to riches tales, focusing on creating a clear structure. We will write using coherent sentences to tell the stories, incorporating a range of conjunctions like "and," "but," and "because" to form ideas. The children will also practice using punctuation correctly, including capital letters, full stops, and question marks, and will apply Year 2 grammar skills such as adjectives and plurals.</p> <p>Non-Fiction - Recount - <i>The Great Fire of London</i></p> <p>In this non-fiction writing unit, we will be learning all about recounts - a type of writing that tells the story of an event in the order it happened. We will focus on <i>The Great Fire of London</i> as our key event, exploring what happened during the fire and how it impacted the city. We will learn to structure our recounts and use time words like "first," "then," and "finally" to sequence the important events.</p>	<p>Fiction - A Journey Tale - <i>Around the World in 80 Days</i></p> <p>In this Year 2 narrative writing unit, we will be exploring the exciting theme of a "Journey Tale," inspired by <i>Around the World in 80 Days</i>. We will learn how to structure a journey story, with a clear beginning, middle, and end, focusing on the adventures and challenges faced by the characters along the way. As we explore the story, children will be encouraged to create their own journeys, using descriptive language to bring the settings and characters to life. This unit will help students develop their storytelling skills, while also improving their use of conjunctions, adjectives, and punctuation to make their narratives more engaging.</p> <p>Non-Fiction - <i>Making Salads</i></p> <p>In this Year 2 non-fiction writing unit, we will be learning all about writing instructions. We will explore the key features of instructional writing, such as clear steps, the use of imperative verbs, and time words to show the order of actions. During our Design and Technology lessons, we will design and make our own salads, gaining hands-on experience with the process. Using this knowledge, we will then create our own set of instructions for making a "Sensational Salad," ensuring their instructions are clear, easy to follow, and include all the necessary details.</p>
Maths	<p>Measurement - <i>Money</i></p> <p>During this Year 2 maths unit on money, we will learn to recognise and use different coins and notes, including pennies, 2p, 5p, 10p, 20p, 50p, £1, and £2, as well as £5, £10, and £20 notes. Children will practice counting money, making amounts with different combinations of coins, and solving simple problems involving addition and subtraction of money. We will also learn how to compare prices, make purchases in role-play activities, and understand the value of money in everyday life.</p> <p>Number - <i>Multiplication and Division</i></p> <p>In our Year 2 maths unit on multiplication and division, we will focus on understanding the relationship between these two operations. Students will learn to multiply by repeated addition, using arrays and visual aids to help them group objects in equal sets. For division, we will explore the concept of sharing objects into equal groups, helping children understand how division is the opposite of multiplication. Through hands-on activities, such as sharing counters or cubes, students will develop their ability to solve simple multiplication and division problems, building confidence in their number skills.</p>	<p>Measurement: <i>Length and Height</i></p> <p>In our Year 2 maths unit on length and height, we will explore how to measure and compare the length and height of objects using both centimetres (cm) and metres (m). Children will practice measuring items in the classroom and around the school using rulers and measuring tapes, beginning to understand the relationship between centimetres and metres. We will also learn how to convert from centimetres to metres, understanding that 100 centimetres equals 1 metre. Through hands-on activities, we will develop skills in accurate measurement.</p> <p>Mass, Capacity and Temperature</p> <p>In this Year 2 maths unit on mass, capacity, and temperature, we will learn to measure and compare different quantities. We will explore mass by weighing objects using scales, understanding units like grams (g) and kilograms (kg). For capacity, we will measure liquids using millilitres (ml) and litres (l), comparing the amounts in different containers. We will also learn how to read thermometers and understand temperature, comparing hot and cold using degrees Celsius (°C).</p>

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<p>Science</p>	<p>Materials and their Properties</p> <p>This 'Uses of Everyday Materials' unit will teach the children about the uses of everyday materials including wood, plastic, metal, glass, brick, paper and cardboard. Children then go on to compare the suitability of different everyday materials for different purposes. They explore how objects made of some everyday materials can change shape and how the recycling process is able to reuse some everyday materials numerous times. It finishes with children learning about new discoveries which have been made over time with a specific focus on John McAdam. A range of learning activities are used in this unit including, discussions, debates, sequencing and a local walk where children work scientifically to identify the uses of everyday materials in the local area.</p> <p>Scientist Study - Charles Macintosh</p> <p>In this unit we will also learn about the famous scientist Charles Macintosh, who invented the waterproof fabric known as <i>macintosh</i> or <i>raincoat</i>. Pupils will explore how Charles Macintosh's discoveries have impacted our everyday lives, especially in keeping us dry in the rain. Through fun experiments, they will investigate materials that are waterproof and learn about how scientists like Macintosh test and observe properties of different materials. This unit will help children understand the importance of scientific discoveries and inspire them to think like scientists as they explore the world around them.</p>	<p>British Science Week</p> <p>Each year, Year 2 takes part in British Science Week, an exciting time where we explore the wonders of science through a variety of hands-on activities. The theme of British Science Week changes every year, and we tailor our activities to match, ensuring that the children engage with relevant and exciting scientific concepts. During this week, children will participate in experiments, creative challenges, and discussions that spark their curiosity and deepen their understanding of science.</p>
<p>Art</p>	<p>Painting Skills Focus</p> <p>In our Art unit, we will focus on painting, exploring the incredible works of artists William Turner and J.M.W. Turner. We'll begin by learning about their unique styles and how they captured light and atmosphere in their paintings. Our journey will include practising still life drawing to develop our observation skills, then moving on to painting techniques, such as using brushes to create texture and wash techniques for soft, blended effects. We'll also experiment with creating striking silhouettes, combining all these skills to produce our own inspired artwork.</p>	
<p>Computing</p>	<p>Programming with Scratch Jnr</p> <p>In our Computing unit <i>Programming with ScratchJr</i>, Year 2 pupils will build on their prior coding knowledge to create interactive stories and games. They will investigate different ways of triggering movement with code and program two sprites to interact with each other. Pupils will also program the movement and appearance of sprites, create scene changes in animations, and debug simple programs. Using logical reasoning, they will predict the behaviour of their programs and learn how to make their creations come to life.</p>	<p>Writing in Different Styles</p> <p>In our Computing unit <i>Writing in Different Styles</i>, Year 2 pupils will learn to use both hands for typing while maintaining good posture. They will design their own layout for a document and apply simple formatting to text, such as changing font sizes or styles. Pupils will also practise importing images into a document and combining them with their text. Additionally, they will use speech bubbles, thought bubbles, and text boxes to enhance their work, and begin using keyboard shortcuts to work more efficiently. This unit helps students develop important skills for creating and editing digital documents.</p>
<p>Design and Technology</p>	<p>Sensational Salads</p> <p>This Sensational Salads unit will teach the children about peeling, zesting, cutting safely and applying these skills when preparing healthy dishes. Children will learn key information about healthy eating and where their food comes from. They will gain some practical ideas about ingredients that can be combined to make interesting and healthy salads.</p>	

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<p>French</p>	<p>Language Angels - Les super-héros (Superheroes) In this fun and engaging unit, pupils will discover six exciting superheroes through immersive and colourful French lessons. They will learn key vocabulary including colours and high-frequency verbs such as <i>I am called, I have, I live, I am, and I can</i>, helping them describe each character. Each lesson features an interactive song to boost confidence and encourage active participation, making language learning memorable and enjoyable.</p>	<p>Language Angels - Ma maison idéale (My Dream House) In this unit, Year 2 pupils will learn the French vocabulary for seven key rooms in a dream house. Each room will be introduced alongside a simple key phrase in French to support early language development. Engaging songs linked to each lesson will encourage active participation and help reinforce learning through music and movement.</p>
<p>Geography</p>	<p>What a Wonderful World - Continents and Oceans In Year 2, our geography topic is called <i>What a Wonderful World</i>, where the children will develop a greater understanding of the world around them by studying the seven continents and five oceans. They will learn about the position of each continent and ocean on a world map, and understand that the Earth is spherical, which means it's round like a ball. The children will also create their own journeys across the world, exploring the idea of travel and the locations of different places. As part of this unit, the children will focus on understanding hot and cold climates. They will learn about the location of hot and cold areas in relation to the equator (the imaginary line around the middle of the Earth) and the North and South Poles. Using atlases, world maps, and globes, they will continue to build on their map skills and identify different climates across the world. Aerial photographs will be used to help the children recognise both human and physical features in different parts of the world. This topic will help the children develop a global awareness and appreciation for the diversity of our planet.</p>	
<p>History</p>	<p>The Great Fire of London - Samuel Pepys In Year 2, our history topic is <i>The Great Fire of London</i>. We will explore key events of the fire and learn how to find out about the past through primary sources, focusing on Samuel Pepys, the famous diarist who recorded his experiences. The children will compare 17th-century London with today, looking at life, buildings, and responses to the fire. Through discussions and activities, they will understand how history is recorded and how sources like Pepys' diary help us learn about the past. This topic will also highlight the significance of the Great Fire and its impact on London's development.</p>	<p>Nurturing Nurses - Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole In Year 2, our history topic is <i>Nurturing Nurses</i>, where the children will learn about two influential nurses, Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. They will explore the significance of their contributions to healthcare, comparing their lives, work, and challenges. The children will discover how Florence Nightingale improved hospital hygiene during the Crimean War and how Mary Seacole overcame racial prejudice to become a pioneering nurse. The unit will highlight how their work continues to influence healthcare today, helping children appreciate the vital role of nurses in history.</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>Charanga - I Wanna Play in a Band In our Music unit <i>I Wanna Play in a Band</i>, Year 2 pupils will learn a fun rock song specially written for children. Through this song, they will explore how to sing and play together as part of an ensemble, developing their skills in teamwork and rhythm. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise, and compose with the song, pupils will also listen to and appraise classic rock songs, helping them appreciate the genre and its key features.</p>	<p>Charanga - Friendship In our Music unit called <i>Friendship</i>, we will explore the theme of being friends through a six-week Unit of Work. All our learning will focus on one special piece: <i>Friendship Song</i>. We will listen to and appraise this song, along with other songs about friendship, thinking about what makes them so meaningful. Together, we will sing the <i>Friendship Song</i> and learn how to play instrumental parts to accompany it. We'll also get creative by composing and improvising our own ideas, all building up to an exciting class performance at the end of the unit!</p>
<p>PE</p>	<p>Gymnastics (North Tyneside Scheme of Work 7-12) In our PE unit called <i>Gymnastics</i>, children will explore movement and creativity using the apparatus. They will devise and repeat short sequences, developing different shapes and levels to add variety. The children will perform a range of actions both on the floor, mats, and apparatus, focusing on control and fluency. As they progress, they will work with a partner to create and perform sequences together, building teamwork and confidence in their skills.</p> <p>Send and Return (Unit 1 PE Hub) In our PE unit called <i>Send and Return</i>, children will develop their ball skills as they begin to hit and return a ball with growing consistency. They will have lots of fun playing modified net and wall games that involve throwing, catching, and sending the ball over a net. This unit is all about building coordination, teamwork, and confidence while enjoying active and engaging games!</p>	<p>Dance (Unit 2 PE Hub) In our PE unit called <i>Dance</i>, children will explore creative movement, learning to perform using more sophisticated formations both individually and as part of a group. Using different stimuli, they will copy and repeat dance actions and begin to create their own motifs. This unit encourages creativity, rhythm, and confidence, as children work together to develop and perform expressive routines.</p> <p>Run Jump Throw (Unit 1 PE Hub) In our PE unit called <i>Run, Jump, Throw</i>, children will have the opportunity to throw and handle a variety of objects, building important skills such as power, agility, coordination, and balance. They will practise moving through and negotiating obstacles with increased control, developing confidence in their physical abilities while having lots of fun!</p>

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<p>PSHE</p>	<p>Think Positive</p> <p>In our PSHE unit called <i>Think Positive</i>, children will learn to recognise, talk about, and accept their feelings, both positive and negative, while exploring ways to manage their emotions. The lessons focus on thinking positively and calmly, helping children make good decisions and develop resilience. They will also discover the joy and positive feelings that come from being thankful, grateful, and mindful, supporting their emotional well-being and encouraging a positive outlook on life.</p>	<p>One World</p> <p>In our PSHE unit called <i>One World</i>, children will explore the idea that we can learn so much from people living in different places and their ways of life. They will reflect on their own family life, home, and school, and compare these to the lives of children around the world. Through this unit, children will also learn about the relationship between people and their environment, discovering how it shapes different ways of living. They will think about how we use the earth's resources and why it is so important to protect our planet for ourselves and future generations, working together to make a difference.</p>
<p>RE</p>	<p>Christianity - What Does it Mean to Belong?</p> <p>In Year 2, our Religious Education topic is What Does It Mean to Belong in Christianity? During this unit, children will explore the idea of belonging within the Christian faith, learning about the importance of community and how Christians show their faith through attending church, praying, and performing acts of kindness. They will discover the significance of baptism as a special ceremony symbolising belonging to the Christian community, as well as other rituals like communion. The children will also learn how Christians follow Jesus' teachings of love, kindness, and forgiveness as ways of belonging to God's family. Through activities like role-playing ceremonies, reading Bible stories, and discussing Christian symbols such as the cross and the fish, children will reflect on what it means to belong to a faith community and consider how we can all show belonging in our own lives.</p>	<p>Christianity- How do Christians Celebrate Easter?</p> <p>In Year 2, our Religious Education topic is <i>How Do Christians Celebrate Easter?</i> In this unit, the children will explore the meaning of Easter in the Christian faith and how it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the most important event in the Christian calendar. They will learn about the key events leading up to Easter, such as Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday, and hear the story of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. The children will also discover symbols of Easter, like the cross, Easter eggs, and the Easter lily, and understand their meanings of new life and hope. Through a range of Easter activities, the children will reflect on the themes of hope, renewal, and forgiveness, and think about how they can celebrate and show kindness in their own lives.</p>