

| What Year 2 are learning   | Hints for helping your child   |
|--|--|
| <p><b>English</b></p> <p>In English we will be focusing on...</p> <p>* Fiction and non-fiction about penguins.<br/>Looking after the Egg (Explanation text)<br/>We will write our own information book and stories about penguins, mainly focusing on the life cycle and animals that live there.<br/>*Fiction (Traditional tale) – The princess and the white bear king.<br/>Throughout the term, we will continue to work on using capital letters and full stops, using our phonics to sound out unknown words and using conjunctions.</p>  | <p>Visit the library and research penguins. You could always make an information book with your child about another animal that lives in the Antarctic.<br/>Read other traditional tales and discuss their meanings behind the stories.<br/>Ensure your child completes their English homework, including Reading every day, each week.<br/>You could read lots of book by the same author like Babette Cole, Julia Donaldson, Roald Dahl, Nick Butterworth or Dick King Smith.<br/>Use Reading Eggs to help develop reading and comprehension.</p>  |
| <p><b>Maths</b></p> <p>This term we will be working on...</p> <p>* Using the symbols +, -, ×, ÷ and = to record number sentences involving all four operations; calculate the value of an unknown in a number sentence (e.g. <math>\square \div 2 = 6</math>, <math>30 - \square = 24</math>.)<br/>* Solving problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication or division.<br/>* Derive and recall multiplication facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times-tables and the related division facts.<br/>* compare and order lengths, mass, volume/capacity and record the results using &gt;, &lt; and =<br/>*identify and describe the properties of 2-D shapes, including the number of sides and line symmetry in a vertical line<br/>*identify and describe the properties of 3-D shapes, including the number of edges, vertices and faces</p> | <p>Ensure your child completes their maths homework every week.</p> <p>Encourage practical maths – finding shapes around, counting, telling the time, helping to pay at the shops, helping with cooking.</p> <p>Play Maths games online – e.g. <a href="http://www.ictgames.com">www.ictgames.com</a> and <a href="http://www.topmarks.com">www.topmarks.com</a> etc.</p> <p>Help your child to practice their multiplication tables and the corresponding division facts for 2x, 5x, 10x and 3x. E.g. <math>2 \times 5 = 10</math>    <math>10 / 2 = 5</math><br/>Use times tables rockstars to help rapid recall of timetables.</p> <p>Discuss what shapes everyday objects are around the house e.g. cans, balls, doors, books, etc</p> |
| <p><b>Science</b></p> <p>In Spring our topic is Living Things and their Habitats. We will be naming and recognising different plants and animals that live in the local environment.<br/>Also, we will be planting and investigating seeds.</p>  | <p>Go on a nature walk and see how many different sorts of living things you can find.</p>   |
| <p><b>Computing</b></p> <p>1. We are Researchers<br/>The children research a topic – safely, effectively and efficiently – using a structured approach (mind mapping). They share their findings with others through a short multimedia presentation.<br/>2. We are Programmers<br/>The children will learn how to use the Scratch software to write code and code.org.</p>  | <p>Support children to use Google and other search engines.</p> <p>Practise using Scratch online: <a href="https://scratch.mit.edu/">https://scratch.mit.edu/</a></p>  |
| <p><b>History</b></p> <p>This term we will be learning about famous royal monarchs in the UK. We will learn about Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria. We will identify similarities and differences between life for children during their reigns.</p>   | <p>Talk to children about any British Kings and Queens they have heard of. Look at pictures of Monarchs. Ask questions e.g. When did they live? Who was the monarch at the time of the great fire? Visit Buckingham Palace, Hampton Court or The Tower of London</p>   |
|  |  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Geography</b></p> <p>We will be learning about the geography of the UK. We will become familiar with terms human and physical geography and contrast our local area with other environments in the UK.<br/>We will begin to understand how to follow a map.</p>   | <p>Show children maps of journeys you are taking. Talk about different features in the environment when you visit places outside your local area.</p> <p>Watch weather reports and discuss weather around the UK.</p>   |
| <p><b>Art</b></p> <p>We will be exploring ideas about textiles and will discover a variety of techniques, e.g. printing, dyeing,</p>  | <p>Talk about different artists' work comparing and contrasting their different styles.</p>   |
| <p><b>DT</b></p> <p>In Spring 2 our topic is Our Island. We will be designing and making Scottish sporrans.</p>   | <p>Look at different types of materials used in clothes and designs found.</p>  |
| <p><b>RE</b></p> <p>Our topic this term is <b>Creation</b>. Our big question is: Where does the world come from and how should we look after it?</p>  | <p>You could talk about your beliefs and different beliefs. You could go to the library or use the internet to research about different religions. Discuss how we can look after the world.</p>   |
| <p><b>Music</b></p> <p>Children are introduced to folk songs (and simple dances) from England, Ireland and Scotland. They sing with attention to pitch, clear diction and phrasing.</p>   | <p>Listen to music with different sounding instruments - identify the instruments<br/>Encourage children to sing songs they have been learning at school.</p>   |
| <p><b>PE</b></p> <p>Our topics this term are Dance and Games involving dribbling and passing with our feet.<br/>We will be playing games making up simple games that involve various skills such as aiming hitting and kicking an object. We will also be learning to spin, turn and twist on different body parts.</p>   | <p>You could play games with your child and discuss the rules and how they might be changed. You practise hitting, kicking and aiming accurately.<br/>You could find different parts of your body to spin on or try quarter and half turns using one or two feet. You could practise linking three different movements together to make a coordinated sequence.</p> |
| <p><b>PSHE</b></p> <p>In Spring 1 our topic is <b>Develop a healthy, safer lifestyle</b>. We will learn how to keep ourselves fit and healthy. In Spring 2 our topic is Healthy Lifestyles and Emotional wellbeing. Children will learn about they like and dislike, and recognise that choices can have good and not so good consequences. We will also be having our Mental Health workshops from The Nest.</p>   | <p>Talk with your children about safety at home and on the road. Practice how to cross the road safely and what to do if there is a fire.<br/>Talk about being kind to others and understanding that we are all different but special.</p>  |
| <p><b>French</b></p> <p>We are learning some classroom instructions. We are also learning how to say colours in French.</p>   | <p>Ask your child to tell you what new words they have learnt in French. Ask your child to pretend to be the teacher at home!</p>   |
| <p><b>Additional Useful Information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework goes out by Thursday each week and needs to be back in school for the following Tuesday. Sometimes, children may get topic homework instead. Please help your child but encourage them to have a go themselves.</li> <li>• Book bags are changed every week. Please hear your child read for 20 minutes a day. Please comment and sign the yellow PACT books. We will visit Brandon Library monthly.</li> </ul> |   |



# **John Ruskin School Parents' Information Leaflet**

**Year 2  
Spring 2024**

Theme – Our Island Home

*Celebrating 10 years of being an Ofsted Outstanding school  
across all Key Stages Nursery to Year 6  
2009-2023*