

Summer Term in Year 2

Welcome, we hope you have all had a restful and happy Easter holiday!

This half term will be a busy one, all Year 2 children will sit their SATs exams this half term. A meeting was held last half term about this but please feel free to talk to Year 2 teachers if you have further questions. We will be exploring the themes of 'Community and Belonging' this half term.

Community

Being involved in a local community helps children to grow in lots of ways; it sends the message that children are important, they are loved and that they belong. We will spend time thinking about the different groups in our community and some of the ways that our community supports its members. We will think about the location, roles, history and diversity of our local community. We will consider our rights and responsibilities within a community and think about the rights and responsibilities of others. We hope that through this topic we can help children to understand that they are an important part of their community and make children aware of different ways that they can connect with their local community.

Belonging

Children will learn that 'belonging' is a feeling of safety and happiness in a group. In order to 'belong' we have to be welcomed by other members of the group and show the same welcome in return. We can belong to lots of different groups; family groups, sports teams, schools, clubs and wider communities. The groups we belong to can be big or small. Children will be encouraged to think about their own sense of belonging and the groups that are important to them. We will consider behaviours that will help to build a strong sense of belonging in a group and those that damage it. We will ask if we need to be the same as every other member of a group in order to belong.

English

This half term we will be reading and writing discussion texts. These are texts that pose a question and detail different opinions on subjects such as whether animals should be kept in zoos, whether children should be allowed to vote or whether we should have to wear a school uniform at school. Children will learn the features of the text, writing in the present tense with a neutral tone for much of the discussion. They will learn to use conjunctions such as 'because' and 'but' to explain and contrast ideas. We will have a renewed focus on spelling, children will be asked to practise eight weekly spellings at home. These will be sent out and uploaded to Tapestry on a Friday for children to practise in preparation for using them in dictated sentences the following Friday. Please support your child to practise these at home.

Maths

In Maths we will ensure that children are well prepared for SATs by continuing with short bursts of daily arithmetic and problem solving. We are learning about fractions of shapes and numbers currently and we will move on to telling the time on an analogue clock. We will revisit telling the time to half past the hour before moving on to quarter past and quarter to the hour. By the end of the unit children should be able to tell the time to five minute intervals.

PSHE

Through our concepts of "Community and Belonging" we will begin by thinking about the different groups that the children belong to such as family groups, classroom groups, religious groups and sports teams. We will think about our local community and how communities support one another. Children will think about their own roles and responsibility as part of a class and as part of the local community.

Geography

Children will think about the human and physical features of Colchester and compare and contrast these to those of a small town in Kenya: Kiambu. Children will also think about how culture and daily routines for children in Kiambu compare with their own, drawing out similarities and differences.

History

Our focus will be the rich history of Colchester. Children will learn about the Roman occupation of Colchester and the Celts who lived alongside them. We will consider where evidence of this era can be found in Colchester, we hope that some very familiar local landmarks will take on a new significance for the children. We will learn about Boudicca's revolt, considering historical accounts of the same events and people can differ and thinking about why this is.

RE

'Special ways of living' is our RE topic this summer. We will be thinking about times of the day, week and year that are special to the children and then moving on to thinking about the special routines and celebrations observed by Christians, Buddhists and Muslims.

PE

This half term we will focus on 'Striking and Fielding': PE days are as follows:
Chameleon: Tuesday and Wednesday
Yeti: Tuesday and Friday
Cat: Wednesday and Friday