

**Year 2**



**Spring 2017**

**Curriculum Information**

At Windermere wherever possible, we follow a 'Themed Approach' to the curriculum. Linking activities and skills across a common theme encourages a deeper understanding of a topic, gives pupils a purpose for their learning and uses curriculum time more effectively.

Active learning is important to us; children gain a wide range of knowledge and understanding through hands on experiences, investigations and model making.

Our theme this term is:

# Exploration

At the end of Year 2 your child will be formally assessed against the new National Curriculum standards in reading comprehension, writing, maths and grammar. Pupils who did not achieve the appropriate standard in the Phonics Screening Test in Year 1 will be retested. Every effort is made to ensure that the process is stress-free for the children.

## English

- **Fiction:** explore traditional tales discussing characters and key story features and writing their own modern day version of a traditional tale.
- **Non-fiction:** the children explore the big question: *Does chocolate grow on trees?* They read the interactive eBook, finding information and exploring the layout of explanation texts. They answer the big question, planning and writing their own explanation texts based on a model.
- Reading and discussing a variety of news stories, looking at the big news questions and the structure of a news report to develop their skills. They will also practise recounting events in the past tense.
- **Grammar:** the children will be learning basic grammar rules and applying them to their written work.
- **Spelling:** pupils will be given spellings every week, which they are expected to learn.
- **Handwriting:** the children will be learning to develop a fluent, joined handwriting style. This aids spelling and speeds writing.

Pupils will be allocated e-book copies of some of the texts read at school. Please log into Wordsmith to share these resources with your child.

## Maths

We will be covering:

- Place value of numbers, understanding two and three digit numbers.
- Number sequences, counting in twos, fives and tens, odd and even numbers.
- Problem solving and word problems.
- Measurement – mass, volume and capacity
- Mental and written calculation strategies.
- Estimating and rounding numbers.
- Fractions – equivalent fractions
- Multiplication facts for 2, 5, and 10.

## Science

- Science – Investigating how we can take care of our bodies by looking at what foods we should eat and how exercise affects our bodies. We will also explore different habitats around our school.

## ICT

- **We Are Researchers:** Using the internet safely to research topics
- **We Are Astronauts** – Programming

## Humanities

- History –**Exploration**. We will be looking at two key explorers Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong. The class will study their lives and compare and contrast their journeys.
- Geography – Exploring the physical features of Scotland by studying books featuring Katie Morag. Exploring different continents and oceans around the world.
- RE – looking at special and sacred places as well as the story of Easter.

## Art and Creative Learning

- Art – Exploring seascapes painted by Van Gogh. Exploring different painting techniques before painting a seascape of their own.
- Design and Technology: Designing and making their own moon buggy.
- Music: learning basic instrument skills. **I Wanna Play In A Band** - rock music.
- Drama: Incorporated into Literacy lessons to express their understanding of poems and stories.

## PE

- Gymnastics the children will explore travelling using different pathways over or under the equipment.
- In Dance the children will be creating simple sequences, varying their actions to reflect different moods.
- In Games the children will learn how to invent their own games with rules.

## Helping your child

There are a number of ways that you can help your child to achieve their full potential at school.

- Aim for 98% attendance and arrive at school on time.
- Give them an appropriate breakfast.
- Make sure they go to bed at a reasonable time (and avoid 'screens' for at least half an hour before bedtime)
- Read them a story and listen to them read.
- Help them to complete their homework and to learn their spellings.
- Help them to learn their number bonds ( $1+9=10$ ) and practise their times tables.
- Ensure they have all the right equipment for school.

## Equipment:

Every day your child should bring to school:

- Named water bottle
- Reading book
- Reading record book
- Home School Notebook
- PE kit (should be left at school throughout the week)

## Key dates:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Year 2's sharing assembly
- 31<sup>st</sup> March – End of term certificate assembly
- 28<sup>th</sup> March – Annual reports