



## Year 2

### Newsletter Spring 1

Welcome back and Happy New Year. All of the Year 2 staff are excited for the term ahead and the abundance of learning opportunities awaiting us. If you have any concerns or questions, please speak to either your child's class teacher or teaching assistant, as our doors are always open and we are here to help.

## LITERACY

Our topic this half term is 'Frozen Planet'. In our English lessons, we will be studying three texts. These are 'The Journey Home' by Frann Preston-Gannon, 'The Rainbow Bear' by Michael Morpurgo and 'The Way Home for Wolf' by Rachel Bright which all explore the journeys and adventures of various polar animals.

As we study the texts, we will use actions to help us recall the main points and to sequence the events. We will be looking at using different sentence types in our writing as well as expanded noun phrases. We will also be writing for a range of different purposes including a letter, a short story, a poster and descriptions.

Key vocabulary:

- |                       |              |           |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| beginning             | middle       | ending    |
| nouns                 | adjectives   | verbs     |
| sentences             | exclamations | questions |
| commands              | statements   |           |
| expanded noun phrases |              |           |

## Mathematics

We will be starting this half term by using our knowledge and skills learned about multiplication, to look at division and think about how the two operations are connected. We will deepen our understanding by looking at puzzles and problems. Next, we will be developing our measuring skills, looking at length and height. We will use rulers and measuring tapes, building our knowledge and solving problems. After that, we will look at how statistics are represented in different ways using tally charts, tables, pictograms and bar charts. Finally, we will explore the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. We will investigate similarities and differences and use these to categorise the shapes.

**Homework** for maths will be set using Mathematics on a weekly basis. If your child requires computer access in school time, please let us know. Times tables will continue to be a key focus and you can help your child by practising these with them too.

Key vocabulary:

- centimetre metre length height  
 divide equal groups odd and even  
 sides vertices edges faces symmetry



## SCIENCE

This half term Year 2 will deepen our knowledge of everyday materials. We will identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials for particular uses. We will then investigate how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

Key Vocabulary:

- wood metal plastic glass  
 brick rock cardboard material





# Other Curriculum Areas

PE - We are going to be looking at developing our basic skills, such as our hand eye coordination, and then look at how we can use these in team games.

RE - In RE, we will be learning about the views of different religions/beliefs regarding the origins of the world.

PSHE - This half term we will be looking at feelings, emotions and healthy relationships.

Music - This half term we will be singing and improvising in our music lessons.

Computing - We will be learning effective searching and E-Safety.

*For other areas of the curriculum, please see our overview on the next page.*



## The Bulletin Board

**Things to remember:**  
Every day: Reading Book and Reading record  
Thursday - Elm PE  
Friday - Hawthorn PE  
Friday: Spelling test

**Homework:**  
**Maths** is set online **every Monday** and must be completed by **the following Monday**.  
**Comprehension** is set on a **Wednesday** and must be returned on **the following Tuesday**.  
For **Topic**, please see the overview in the homework books.  
**Spellings** are given at the start of every week, **but do not need to be handed in**. **Spelling tests** are on **Fridays**.  
**Reading** books are sent home to allow for daily reading.



## IMPORTANT DATES

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January** - Hawthorn's visit to the West Yorkshire Wildlife Park

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January** - Elm's visit to the West Yorkshire Wildlife Park

**10<sup>th</sup> February** - Book Fair

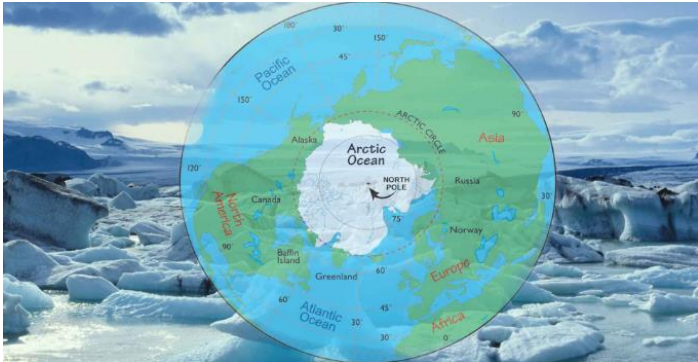
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>  
<https://www.coolkidfacts.com/india/>  
<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>  
[www.teachyourmonstertoread.com](http://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com)



Brrr! It's getting cold.

Join us as we head to the coldest places on the planet - the Arctic and Antarctic. Make sure you wrap up warm as we learn about the Polar Regions and the animals that survive there.

# Frozen Planet!



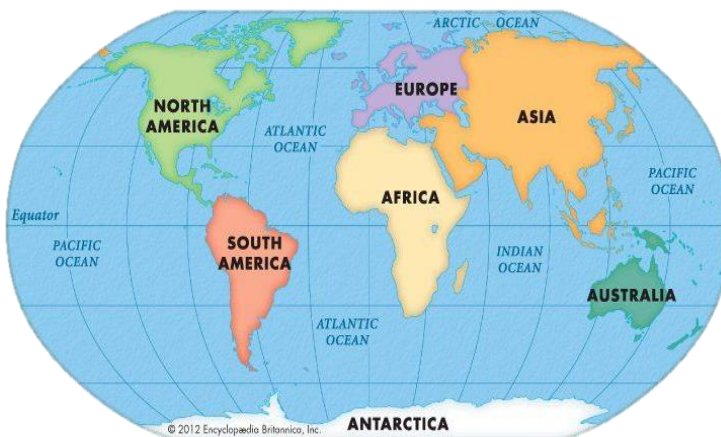
## Polar Regions

In geography, we will be thinking about what geographical features we would see in Antarctica that we wouldn't see in our local area. We will begin by looking at the seven continents of the world. Next, we will identify the location of hot and cold areas in relation to the equator and North and South Poles. Finally, we will be researching a polar animal.



## Great explorers

In history, we will be introduced to Scott the Explorer and be thinking about why he is significant. We will discuss why we call him an explorer and why Antarctica might have been difficult to explore. We will then look at Captain Scott's diary and discuss what happened to him and his companions on his journey.



## Art

In art we will be looking at the contrast between the warm paint colours we used for our Great Fire of London pictures and the cold colours we would use to create a polar scene. We will think about different tones and shades of colour and experiment with colour mixing. We will then be thinking about different textures to create a polar collage, finishing by drawing a polar animal to complete our artwork.

## RE

This half term, we will consider how we can look after our planet. The ways in which religious and non-religious individuals and organisations show care and concern for the planet. The views and beliefs of different religions will be discussed to develop an understanding of their views regarding the origins of the world. We will be taking time to reflect on the world in which we live and celebrate the wonderful things around us.

