

YEAR TWO TOPIC NEWSLETTER



Summer Term 2023

Where the Wild

Things Are

(7 weeks)



This exciting topic in Year Two this half term, has a heavy focus on plant life. We will start by introducing the term 'germination', and will find out how a plant starts to grow (from a seed or bulb). The children will carry out fair tests, changing specific variables to see if germination needs light, water and a certain temperature. The children will also make predictions about what the optimum temperature is for certain plants to grow.



In geography, the children will be preparing for their end of year trip to Moors Valley, where they will use their map skills to navigate the park looking at both human and physical features.

Our focus text in literacy is 'Where the Wild Things Are' by Maurice Sendak. It is a great book to capture the children's imagination, as the child's room changes into another world: where the 'Wild Things' live. We will focus on this setting description and use this to innovate our very own worlds. Alongside this, the children will use the information learnt in topic time to write an informative report about how plants grow from a seed or a bulb, and all the things that a plant might need to grow.

In maths, the children will recap and build upon their prior learning while looking at geometry, measure and shape.

Throughout this half term in Year Two, we will aim to work very closely with the staff and children at Haymoor Junior School, to help with the transition to junior school. We have many activities planned, including visits to Haymoor Junior School, so that the children can start to get a taste for life in Year Three. We are also in contact with other local schools to ensure that all our children have a smooth transition. This term, the children will find out which teacher they will have next year and will get the opportunity to spend time in their new classroom with their new teacher on Transition Day.

Home Learning Activity

For the children's home learning, we would like them to choose a plant or flower that they like and then produce their own beautiful picture of that plant or flower. This can be completed using paints, chalks, pastels, collage, colouring pencils, felt tips or whatever they choose! Please label this picture with the parts of a plant. The children's home learning must be sent into school by **Monday 10th July 2023** (please feel free to send it in earlier).

Focus Author

This half term, we will be reading and discussing books and stories written by the author David Walliams. There are some lovely shorter stories to read by this author, such as: 'The Slightly Annoying Elephant' or 'There's a Snake in my School' but if your child would like a bit more challenge, suggestions of longer texts include 'Mr Stink' and 'The Midnight Gang'.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 7th June 2023 – 999 First Aid assemblies

Friday 9th June 2023 – Maths transition event at Haymoor Junior School

Thursday 15th June 2023 – Haymoor Junior School Year 3 teachers to visit Year 2

Friday 16th June 2023 – Music and PE transition event at Haymoor Junior School

Monday 19th June 2023 – Staff Inset day

Friday 23rd June 2023 – Art transition event at Haymoor Junior School

Monday 26th June 2023 – Whole Year group Moors Valley Country Park trip

Tuesday 27th June 2023 – Musician in residence workshops

Wednesday 28th June 2023 – Year 2 Sports day

Thursday 29th June 2023 – Life bus education visits

Friday 30th June 2023 – Transfer day

Monday 3rd July 2023 – Aspirations day and Year 2 leavers disco (FOAA) at Ad Astra Infant School

Thursday 6th July 2023 – TEACH Trust Summer Concert

Tuesday 11th July 2023 – Visit Haymoor Junior School to watch Year 6 Performance, and Year 2/3 disco at Haymoor Junior School

Friday 14th July 2023 – School reports will be sent home

Thursday 20th July 2023 – Year Two Leavers' Assemblies

SPECIFIC LETTERS ABOUT SOME OF THESE EVENTS WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY

P.E- Gymnastics and Outdoor Games

In P.E. this half term, the children will be learning gymnastics. The children will explore a range of apparatus and learn to use these safely.

In outdoor games, we follow a scheme called 'Get Set 4 PE' which is fully aligned to the National Curriculum and Ofsted requirements. This term, we are focusing on striking and fielding, alongside sports day practise.

PE days for this half term continue to be as follows:

Giraffes: Tuesday and Thursday

Zebras: Wednesday and Thursday

Meerkats: Monday and Tuesday

Please help us to keep your child safe by removing their earrings on PE and outdoor games days, otherwise they will be unable to participate in some parts of these sessions. Please also ensure that, if your child has long hair, it is tied back; their PE kit is in school and that their clothes are clearly labelled with their name. Your child's PE bag will be sent home half termly to be washed.

P.S.H.E. and R.E. (Religious Education)

The children's learning will continue to be based on the Jigsaw scheme of work in PSHE lessons by moving onto the unit 'Changing Me'. In this unit, the children will be learning about lifecycles in nature, growing from young to old, their changing bodies, and looking ahead to their goals for Year 3.

In RE, the children will continue their learning about Islam.

If you have any questions about this newsletter, please contact your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support,

Teaching Staff – Year Two
Miss Bridgman, Mr Baumber and Miss Carne

Teaching Assistants and Individual Support Assistants
Mrs Bailey, Mrs Leslie, Miss Parker, Miss Warren, Mrs Cross and Mrs
Mannering