

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p>Title: George’s Marvellous Medicine</p> <p>Your child is learning to retell a section of Roald Dahl’s classic tale George’s Marvellous Medicine. The part of the text that we will be focusing on is George’s first medicine. We will explore the ingredients used by George. Then we shall create our very own potions, design the packaging and write instructions telling others how to create the magical liquid. The children will engage in lots of drama activities to inspire creativity and rehearse language patterns. Once they have generated lots of exciting ideas they will then be given the opportunity to apply within their writing.</p> <p>As well as composition, we will continue to consolidate our knowledge of contractions (can’t, don’t, wouldn’t etc), apostrophes for possession e.g. Bill’s hamster as well as the suffixes –less (speechless) and –ful (harmful).</p>
	<p>You can support your child by encouraging them to retell the text using intonation and confident voice. At home you could create your own potion and write the ingredients and method. During homework sessions, it may be useful to remind your child that they have been learning about interesting sentence openers so that they can vary the way they start their sentences e.g. Remarkably... Surprisingly... Frowning angrily, Lucy stomped down stairs.</p>
	<p>Nelson Handwriting</p> <p>Your child is continuing to write with their ‘Perfect Pencil Grip’ and ‘Posture for Writing’. All children are beginning to join their Nelson handwriting. All letters should be joined, except for g, j, p, q, y and z.</p> <p>You can support your child by ensuring that they sit properly on their chair with their feet on the floor, facing the table with a pencil in their writing hand and their other hand on their work. Free writing is a good way of practising the joins but please support your child so they are learning good habits. Encourage and model to your child how to frequently read through their work and edit as they go.</p>
Writing	<p>Sounds-Write (Phonics)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further consolidation and practise of sound/spelling correspondences. For example: j, dge, ge, g. • Splitting polysyllabic words into their syllables (e.g. hand/bag, wind/mill, syll/a/bles) • Reading polysyllabic words with fluency and applying them in writing.
	<p>When your child needs to spell a longer word e.g. “important”, try saying this: “How many syllables does “important” (say it slowly) have? Then say “Sound out the first syllable,” (im) “Now the second,” (por) “And the third,” (tant).</p>
	<p>During the second half of the Spring term it is important that we continue to consolidate the skills of inference and deduction. As discussed in Family Learning, Inference can be defined as an interpretation that goes beyond the literal information given. Deduction is when you make a judgement about something based on the information you have. E.g. A child may read “A man was standing in the doorway. He looked out and shook his head.” The following question could be “Can you explain why he shook his head?”</p>
	<p>To support with this, we will send home a Reading Challenge weekly as part of the Home Learning activity. Please encourage your child to read the text, reminding them that we can break longer words into syllables to help us when reading.</p> <p>Please continue to ask your child questions once they have read their texts. Here are some examples of questions that will support inference and deduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What words make you think that? Why? Do you think this is true/untrue? Why? • How do you feel about.....? Why? Can you explain why.....? • At the end of the story the main character is feeling..... Does this surprise you? • What does this tell you about what.....was thinking?



Mathematics	<p>Maths No Problem</p> <p>We will begin the half term by focusing on measurement, this will include mass (g, kg), length (cm, m), distance (km) and capacity (ml, l). The children will learn to read different scales. We will explore the measurements in real life contexts and there will be lots of opportunities for hands on experience. As the children become more confident with measurement, we will then incorporate the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. E.g. Ms Burke needs 125ml of milk. She has 36ml. How many more ml does she need? John is very tired because he ran around the playground. He can't remember whether he ran 200cm, 200m or 200km. Which one did John run? How do you know?</p>
	<p>You could support at home by doing some baking. Encourage your child to read the scales and measure out different amounts. Give them challenges such as, if I need to double the amount of flour, how much would I have? How many strawberries make 50g? Estimating the length of the window for some new curtains – will we use cm, m or km?</p>
Core Knowledge	<p>Science – We will be learning about the human body and the different systems within it. We will focus on skeletons, muscles, nervous systems and organs. Medicine and germs will also be explored.</p>
	<p>Geography – We will be learning about Northern Europe. We will explore the locations, climates and cultures of the countries that make up Northern Europe.</p>
	<p>Art – We will be looking at what a self-portrait is, colours and lines and artists such as Picasso and Rembrandt to help us create our own works of art!</p>
	<p>RE – We will be learning about Hinduism. As part of this topic the children will get the opportunity to learn about the different Gods and Goddesses as well as the story of how Hinduism began.</p>
Character	<p>You could support at home by asking your child about their learning in these areas. Any additional research using non-fiction books or the internet would be excellent as a way to deepen their understanding. Perhaps you could visit The National Gallery, a Hindu temple, or look at a map of Northern Europe and identify the countries.</p>
	<p>Your child will learn about; humour, creativity and optimism and joy. We will explore real life contexts that the children might find themselves in and how we could approach these situations. We will teach these virtues using stories from a variety of cultures, song, drama and discussion.</p>
Music	<p>You can support your child by discussing the world around you, stories you read and the things that you see and hear. Share ideas and encourage curiosity. You might like to discover a new artist and learn about the methods and mediums they use for their creations. Think and talk about how you can turn a disheartening situation around and look at the world with positivity and optimism.</p>
	<p>Your child continues to sing with their class every day, as well as during music lessons, where they are learning to sing rounds, and to clap out rhythms and beats. This half term we will be continuing to learn that music can tell a story with a focus on Opera and Ballet.</p>
P.E. and Dance	<p>You can support your child by providing your child with the opportunity to listen to Opera music. Discuss how the music makes you feel and why. How is different to some of the music that you might usually listen to?</p>
	<p>This half term Year 2 children will be learning the rules and playing Hockey as well as continuing to consolidate and develop their Netball skills. They will also be playing in match fixtures against other schools with our specialist AMSA team!</p>
	<p>Please ensure your child has trousers at school as part of their PE kit as we will strive to teach PE outside as much as possible. Before coming to school, please ensure your child eats a nutritious breakfast to prepare them for the day ahead.</p>