


Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p>George and the Dragon Your child is learning to retell the story of George and the Dragon. They will engage in lots of drama activities and use props to bring the story to life. Following this, they will then create their own defeating the monster tale based on the structure of George and the Dragon. Each day they will practise writing extended sentences with correct punctuation. As well as composition, we will be focusing on adjectives (e.g. delicious, shimmering, scarlet), adverbs (e.g. carefully, sneakily), and similes (e.g. ...hot like a fire).</p>
	<p>You could support by asking your child to tell you about the story at home (we will send home story maps with each new text). They should use full sentences, describing words and expression in their voice. It would also be beneficial to do free writing at home. Free writing is when the children can write about whatever they like using a picture as a stimulus. There are some great pictures on pobble365. Please support us by working alongside your child to edit and make appropriate corrections to their writing.</p>
Writing	<p>Nelson Handwriting Your child is practising with their 'Perfect Pencil Grip' and 'Posture for Writing'. Pupils are writing number digits, words and full sentences. As we move through our first half term, your child will be encouraged to start joining their letters up with the exception of g, j, x, y and z.</p> 
	<p>You could support by ensuring your child sits properly on their chair, with both feet on the floor, facing the table with a pencil in their writing hand and the other hand on their work. Please ensure that your child has a perfect pencil grip – you can speak to your class teacher to show you what this looks like.</p>
Reading	<p>Sounds-Write (Phonics) Your child is practising their skills of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Further consolidation of sounds and their spellings.
	<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>Whole Class Reading This term the children will be reading two books as part of Whole Class Reading called 'Zog' and 'The Tunnel'. We will practise the following comprehension skills: prediction, retrieval, inference and sequencing. The children will explore this through echo reading, drama exercises and they will also learn new vocabulary to support their comprehension skills.</p>
Mathematics	<p>You could support by listening to your child read every night at home and engaging in discussion about the text. You can also share a mixture of picture and chapter books with your child in order to broaden their knowledge of books. Books change days will be on Tuesdays and Fridays. The children will also visit the library every each week to borrow a book. If your child's book has become lost, please go to the office and pay £5 so that we can order a replacement book.</p>
	<p>Your child is exploring the concept of place value using a range of mathematical resources. They will also be focusing on the rapid recall of adding and subtracting multiples of ten to/from any given number up to 100 e.g. $52 + 30 = ?$ and $78 - 40 = ?$. We will then apply this in different contexts such as can they find the missing numbers e.g. $43 + \underline{\quad} = 73 - 20$. Year 2 pupils will independently solve every day mathematical problems e.g. There are 32 children in a class. 19 of them are boys. How many girls are there? 'Prove it' will be commonplace in maths lessons this year. 'How do you know?', 'Explain...', 'Tell me more...' and 'What if...?' will all be used to help deepen our understanding of mathematical concepts.</p>

	<p>We will be encouraging your child to explain in multiple ways with a large focus on purposeful talk within our maths lessons.</p>
	<p>You could support by practising counting with your child in particular the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables as well as encouraging your child to tell the time throughout the day (using both analogue and digital clocks).</p>
Core Knowledge	<p>In science, Year 2 are learning about the human body. The children will be exploring organs and their systems. They will also be looking at how to prevent illnesses.</p>
	<p>In geography, Year 2 pupils are learning about the world. We will learn; how to use a map and about cities, countries, oceans and continents.</p>
	<p>In religious education Year 2 are learning about Christianity. We will be focussing our learning on the life and teachings of Jesus, specifically looking at the stories in the Bible and its teachings.</p>
	<p>In computing, Year 2 are focusing on 'How is information technology (IT) being used for good in our lives?'. We will focus on IT in the home, learners explore how IT benefits society in places such as shops, libraries, and hospitals. Whilst discussing the responsible use of technology, and how to make smart choices when using it.</p>
	<p>You could support at home by exploring different types of maps and finding capital cities around the world. You could also go on a habitat hunt around your local park to see what you can find!</p>
Character & Jigsaw (PSHE)	<p>Character: Your child is learning about self-control, love & kindness and bravery. Whilst looking at this virtue we will explore real life contexts that the children might find themselves in and how we could approach these situations. This virtue will be embedded through discussion and stories.</p>
	<p>Jigsaw: This term the children will be exploring the topic 'Being Me in my World'. This will cover how to grow current friendships and make new friends. They will also learn skills of mindfulness and how to find moments of calm.</p>
	<p>You could support by asking your child how they showed self-control today. You could also encourage them to always speak with a confident voice while making eye contact, and to think about what they would do in different tricky situations.</p>
	<p>Over the course of Yr2, we will be encouraging and modelling independence so that the children are able to begin taking responsibility for themselves and their actions. We will be developing this as part of our classroom routine. E.g. handing in homework and bringing in and changing reading books. You can support through small reminders and encouraging children to do things for themselves at home.</p>
Art	<p>Your child is learning about colour, shape and texture. This includes a recap on primary colours as well as exploring how to make new colours. As part of this topic we will study Mondrian and Leonid Afremov who used bright colours in their artwork.</p>
	<p>You could support by discussing different artists and paintings with them and delving into techniques that can be used when painting.</p>
Music	<p>Your child will continue to take part in our music scheme, Chranga. They will learn lots of new music skills, for example, how to identify pitch and rhythm. The children will also be learning to compose their own music pieces.</p>
	<p>You could support by discussing pieces of music and the instruments that can be heard within a song.</p>
Spanish	<p>In Year 2 we will start our Spanish teaching by learning how to say various types of fruit. For example, apple = manzana. We will be doing this through a range of games, songs and fun activities each week.</p>
	<p>You could support at home by asking them to recall different types of fruit in your fruit bowl.</p>

P.E.	This term, the children will be learning how to play hockey in a fun and safe way, preparing them for life in upper school. Along with this, the children will be working on their coordination skills; especially hand-eye coordination. Each lesson, we will spend time learning how to throw and catch successfully using a variety of sized balls and objects including, tennis balls, netballs, rugby balls and even beanbags. We will be developing this skill independently but with a partner.
	Year 2 have their PE day on a Wednesday. Please ensure your child comes into school wearing their full P.E. kit on their PE day. Children will not be getting changed at school until further notice.

General reminder – Please ensure that your child has a waterproof coat in school every day so that they can play outside come rain or shine. As we know, the weather in England can change very rapidly! All coats and PE kits must be clearly named.