



January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you had an enjoyable and restful holiday.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you again for your generous Christmas gifts. We hugely appreciate your support and kindness.

Curriculum

English

We will start with a **non-fiction** unit based around a book called **The Emperor's Egg**. We will learn all about the life-cycle of a penguin and will write a non-fiction report page about Emperor penguins. We will also be writing setting descriptions about Antarctica using similes, powerful verbs and interesting adjectives. We will then focus on the **story** book **Look Up! by Nathan Bryon**. We will be using this text to inspire our own writing, from persuasive flyers, diary entries, letters of encouragement, to writing our own meteor-shower-inspired poem. We will also work on our inference skills.

Maths

We will begin a unit on **money**. Children will recognise and count different coins. They will add and subtract money both in pence and pounds. They will also begin to calculate change and subtract money. We will then start a unit on **multiplication and division**. Children will be learning a range of strategies to solve multiplication and division problems. We will be learning the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

Science

We will be learning about **plants**, including the different parts of plants, their life cycle, germination, looking at which plants we can eat and comparing different plants.

Geography

Our topic this half-term is **China**. We will be looking at where China is in the world, some of its key human and physical geographical features, discovering features of its biggest city, Shanghai, and comparing it to London, as well as learning about farming, crops and Chinese exports.

PE

We will be taking part in **games** that focus on agility, balance and coordination, followed by a **gymnastics** unit and a **dance** unit.

Music

Our lessons will be inspired by **The Carnival of the Animals** by Camille Saint-Saëns. Children will play different percussion instruments throughout this unit.

Computing

We will learn how to **stay safe online**, learning how **computer inputs and outputs** work and understanding how computers are used in the wider world.

Headteacher Leon Choueke

PHSE

Our PHSE lessons this half-term will focus on **health and well-being**, including steps to success, having a growth mindset, healthy eating and looking after our teeth.

Religion and Worldviews

Our unit this term explores ideas about **the natural world and our place in it** and how they relate to religious and other beliefs. The unit will cover some of the beliefs associated with Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism and Humanism.

Reading

Please make sure your child brings in their books and reading journal on their book-changing day. Your child will continue to take part in guided reading sessions and new books will be sent home for them each week. It is important that you continue to read with your child at home regularly.

Spelling

We will continue sending home 6 spellings per week to learn by the end of the week. We will send home a spelling activity sheet every Friday which children can complete at home ahead of our quiz on the following Friday. The spellings can also be found on Parent Hub every week.

Handwriting

We will practise handwriting three times a week. This term we will focus on joining certain letters together.

More detailed information about what we will learn each week can be found on the **Weekly Overview**, posted weekly on **Parent Hub**.

MyMaths

Some new activities for this term have been added to MyMaths. There are a range of activities based on what we are learning at school this term, including money, multiplication and division. Some of the activities your child may be able to do independently, but with some of them your child may need some adult support.

Dates for your diaries:

Thursday 22nd January: Sibling photos

Friday 30th January: INSET day (school is closed for all children)

Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th April: Year 2 Habitats and Pond Dipping Trip to Hampstead Heath
(more details to follow closer to the time)

If you have any questions or queries then please make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher.

We are looking forward to a very happy and successful term.

Yours sincerely,
The Year 2 Team

Headteacher Leon Choueke