



Location, location, location

As mathematicians we will continue to develop our addition and subtraction skills, building on the mental and written arithmetic strategies we know to solve different problems with 2-digit numbers. We will work with money, learning to recognise coins and notes. We will combine coins to make different and equal amounts, as well as using our addition and subtraction skills to work out how to find totals and give change. We will look at properties of 2D and 3D shapes, counting vertices, edges and faces. We will use these properties to help us draw different shapes and solve problems.

As geographers we will

explore our place in the world by looking at atlases, maps, and globes. Starting at home, we will explore the school site using compass directions, before taking a closer look at some of the key places in Keyworth. We will create our own map using symbols and the correct terminology. We will then move on to learn the names of continents and oceans, and how the equator has effect on the weather and landscape. Finally we will travel to Japan and learn about its geography and culture, using our geography skills to discuss the human and physical features and how they compare to those closer to home in Keyworth and Nottingham.

As historians we will

compare maps and photographs of Keyworth and our school to see how they have changed within living memory. We will also discuss how transport has evolved locally before learning about some of the transport technology in Tokyo, Japan.

Knowledge of the World

We will explore the life and culture of people living in Japan, comparing, and contrasting it to our own lives as well as looking at land use and buildings.

As scientists we will

be learning about what it means to be alive and what an animal needs to survive. We will learn the names of common animals and plants found in our local area before looking at more exotic environments. We will look at habitats and why different animals live in different locations. We will think about adaptations and how animals have changed in order to survive in extreme temperatures or landscapes. We will investigate micro-habitats and discover where some of the smallest creatures choose to set up home.

The Big Idea...

'Home is not a place, but a feeling'

Homes come in all shapes and sizes but maybe it's not the physical building that makes that house a home. We will be exploring how the hustle and bustle of a busy city can be a vibrant place to live and how the countryside may be the tranquil, safe haven that people prefer. We will travel around our school and Keyworth, discovering what makes the UK special to us before travelling around the world to learn about Japan. A place that may be different to our country but where 125 million people call home.

As language experts we will

begin the term looking at the story 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch'. We will explore new vocabulary and collect interesting words and phrases to improve our own writing. We will look at the story structure and use this to retell and write our own stories based on the Lighthouse Keeper. We will focus on identifying verbs and how to use these in the past tense for our writing. We will then move on to exploring the art of letter writing. We will study the story 'Cherry Blossom and Paper Planes by Jef Aerts and Sonna Te Loo' and imagine what it would be like for our closest friend to move away. We will write letters to them and maybe even try our hand at some origami to go with our writing. Sentence work will be at the heart of our English lessons this half term as we learn to identify statements and questions. We will perfect the terminology to go with nouns, adjectives and verbs and will ensure our sentences begin with a capital letter and end with the correct punctuation. We will continue with our work on narrative by learning about an alternative version of a fairytale. Jim and the Beanstalk by Raymond Briggs will give us chance to study different characters and give us an opportunity to add our own twist to a traditional fairytale.

Across the curriculum

As athletes we will be working on our movement and coordination as part of our gymnastic unit. We will be travelling on low level equipment and perfecting our floor level work before trying out our skills up high.

As musicians we will be joining together as a school to enjoy different genres of music. We will develop confidence to sing and perform learning the words to our favourite school songs.

As expressive artists we will be exploring the use of paint in the style of Monet. We will look at mixing different tones of colours to create Cherry Blossom pictures and making small brush strokes in the style of the artist.

As computer specialists we will be learning how to login to the laptops and using Word to combine text and image. We will type instructions to create a perfect sandwich.

As theologians and thinkers we will be studying Jewish people and their beliefs. We will learn about the story of creation and the importance of Shabbat, a way of belonging.

Citizenship, the 5 C's and British Values

Empathising with other living things is an important step in learning to care and understand. We will look at the rules we follow at home, school and in the wider community to help care and look after each other.

Ambition and possibilities

Remove the boundaries to travel and where in the world would you choose to go and why? Who would you take with you and what would you be able to do there?

YEAR 2 LEARNING LETTER

SPRING HALF TERM 1

Welcome back after the Christmas holiday. The children have been full of excitement over the past few days, and it has been lovely to hear about gifts they have received, places they have been and family they have seen. It certainly sounds like it has been a busy Christmas holiday. Everyone who works in Year 2 would also just like to say a big thank you for all the well wishes, cards, and gifts we received for Christmas.

Last half term we were busy designing and creating our coin purses. The children learnt a new skill and persevered when this was a little difficult to begin with. Here are a few of the different colour choices that were designed.



INFORMATION

Homework and spellings will resume this half term, coming home on a Friday and due back in by the following Wednesday please. Spelling tests will continue to take place on a Friday.

Outdoor PE

One of our PE lessons each week will take place outdoors. A reminder that children can wear jogging bottoms or sport leggings for our outdoor PE lessons, as well as a jumper with no hood.

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A JOURNEY FROM KEYWORTH TO JAPAN

This half term we be learning all about the world in which we live. We will be comparing life in Keyworth with that of Tokyo, Japan and learning all about the continents and oceans. A catchy song to help us remember them all will also be learnt so watch out for that being performed at home. On the reverse of this letter is our detailed curriculum plan, but here is a quick snapshot of our learning.



BOOK RECOMMENDATION

'The Giraffes of Whispering Wood', is the first book in the Night Zookeeper series and introduces the reader to the magic of the zoo and the animals that live behind its gates. Along with some friendly creatures, the main character, Will, sets off to help protect the inhabitants of the zoo against the evil Lord of Nulth and his army of robotic spiders. A tale of bravery and friendship that leaves you searching for the next book in the series.

