

22nd October 2021



Our Year 2 Newsletter

Year 2: Miss Akhtar, Mrs Akhtar, Mrs Azid, Mrs Nannus, Miss Poulter, Miss Zia and Ms Zamir.

Dates for your diary:

Dear Parent/Carers,

It has been an incredibly busy half term as we welcomed back our new key stage 1 pupils, visited Birmingham Cathedral, held Safety Seymour workshops, delivered phonics workshops and introduced our weekly booster clubs! Thank you to the parents and carers who had the opportunity to join us for the Year 2 assessments meeting at the start of this term, during which key assessment information was shared about Year 2 SATS in the summer 2021 term, and the Phonics Screening test moved from summer to next month. As the half term draws to a close, it is the perfect opportunity to share some of our recent and exciting wider learning experiences; read on to find out more! We are due to learn more about the Great Fire of London and use this as a central theme in the run up to the Christmas holidays.

We continue to ask for your ongoing support with improving our school attendance at school. It is essential that your child(ren) attend school every day, if they are fit and well, to make good or better progress. Every day counts!

We are impressed with how much pupils have progressed and what they have achieved already. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss pupils wellbeing and progress during parents evening. Please don't hesitate to approach me at the gates if you have any queries in the meanwhile.

Class with highest attendance in Year 2	2B – 98%
Average class attendance in Year 2	96%
School Attendance Target	97%

Last day of Autumn 1 term: Friday 22nd October	Pupils return to school: 1st November 2021 Autumn 2 term starts
Book Fair in School W.C. 1st November	Primary Parents Evenings Tuesday 2nd November & Wednesday 3rd November 3.15 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.
Diwali Celebration Day: Wednesday 3rd November	Great Fire of London Workshop Wednesday 10th November
Remembrance Day: Thursday 11th November	Primary Photograph Day: Thursday 18th November
Anti-Bullying Workshops and Performances Thursday 18th November	Children in Need Day: Friday 19th November
Particles (Science) Workshop 23rd November 2021	Parents Phase 5 Phonics Workshop Wednesday 24th November 3.05-3.45 p.m.
Hanukah Celebration Day Monday 6th December	The Wind in the Willow Pantomime: Morning.
Christmas Themed Lunch Wednesday 15th December	Last day of autumn term for children: Friday 17th December 2021

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~English~



During this half term the pupils in Year 2 have enjoyed learning all about Nelson Mandela and Wilma Rudolph. Children learnt about the apartheid system in South Africa and how Nelson Mandela won his fight for freedom, as well as about Wilma Rudolph, a female Olympic gold medallist. She used her family, positive thoughts and determination to walk again, despite being told by doctors that this would not be possible. We studied the captivating book, 'Long Walk to Freedom' by Chris Van Wyk. This non-fiction book helped us see how the style of writing can fascinate, engage, and enthuse our readers. This book inspired our English lessons and our creative writing. Using this text, pupils created a fact file on Nelson Mandela to present information about his childhood, struggles, and achievements.

"Nelson Mandela spent 27 years in prison and when released he became the first black President of South Africa."

Mohid 2B

We were extremely proud of their final pieces of work. We will finish off this unit by allowing pupils to learn all about the inspiring Rosa Parks and will write diary entries from her perspective, capturing the significant events of her life. This has all linked really well with what the children have been learning about Black History Month.

"Nelson Mandela believed that black and white people should be equal."

He wanted equality in South Africa"

Melanie 2B



We will start next term off by looking at some poetry. The children will have the opportunity to learn about Remembrance Day and then express their ideas through some wonderful, emotive poetry. This leads nicely with our class reading text where the children will get a chance to analyse instructions and their features

as well as learn to follow simple instructions to create their own poppy! Another text we will be looking at is Toby and the Great Fire of London, which of course links with our history topic. We are excited to see the creative writing opportunities this book brings as the children adapt the story and make up their own version! Watch this space!

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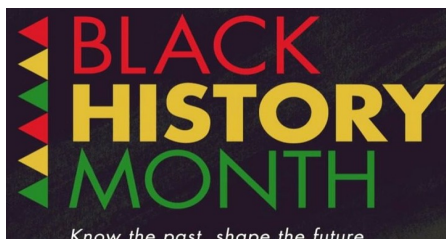
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~2A's Class Assembly~



In readiness for Black History Month, Class 2A held an assembly for Year 2. We have been learning about Nelson Mandela so the assembly was a great opportunity to talk about him and his accomplishment of achieving equality in South Africa.

During the assembly, we also talked about Barack Obama who was the first Black American President, alongside Martin Luther King Juniors dream of one day seeing little black boys and girls holding hands with little white girls and boys. It was fantastic to see how passionate children in 2A were while performing their assembly and delivering such a positive message about equality.

Finally, we finished with a song from one of the greatest black singers, Bob Marley. We all sang 'Three Little Birds', and sang 'Don't worry, be happy', a great philosophy!



Behaviour & Attendance

Our new behaviour policy 'Good to Be Green' is working fantastically with the children at Waverley in KS1. Every child starts on green every day and children are rewarded with silver, gold and platinum cards for doing the right thing. Children will be given a warning or consequence card for making the incorrect choices. There will be prizes for children who consistently earn silver, gold and platinum cards.

More information can be found on: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=icwNOzN3RkQ&ab_channel=PrimaryTeachingServices

Being at school is crucial to good outcomes so please all continue to work hard on coming to school every day and let's make year 2 the weekly winners with the highest attendance. We are currently below the school attendance target so this is something we want everybody to work on together. We are all one big team!



"Well done 2A, it was lovely to see you pull together and create the first assembly for Year 2! Also, a big thank you to the parents for showing their support! It is great to have you back!" Mrs Nannua

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READING

is an adventure that never ends!



Reading is vitally important; it involves an adult sharing a text with the whole class and really looking deeply into the book. It is a strategy that supports students to discover the meaning of a text. It encourages use of problem-solving strategies to figure out words they don't know, deal with difficult sentence structure, and understand concepts or ideas they have never before encountered in print. Reading also serves other purposes other than that related to its literary functions, it ultimately broadens and educates the mind. Reading allows us to be transported from our own world to another. Between the pages of a book, we can immerse and imagine ourselves in the lives of fictional characters. Books enable us to learn about other cultures that are entirely different from our own. This is especially important as we live in a multi-cultural and diverse city underpinned by British Values. Waverley School pupils uphold and actively promote our HEAR values.

Reading allows us to be transported from our own world to another. Between the pages of a book, we can become immersed in the lives of fictional characters and learn about a culture entirely different from our own. We can also learn new words and phrases, experience a range of emotions,

and acquire skills and knowledge. Because of the learning potential, the effects of reading on child development are vast and multiple studies have highlighted its benefits. As such, teachers and parents are in a great position to ensure reading is a key part of children's daily routine.



Today, more than ever, we need to really support our children in building a love of reading.

This can be achieved by questioning the comprehension of books read, promoting inference and predicting what could happen next in a story, encouraging children to summarise texts and invest the time in listening to children read aloud. These small priceless actions can help promote reading for pleasure and develop not only children's literacy skills but confidence too! Each child at Waverley should aim to read at least 10 minutes a day and make some inferences. How many of the books above have you read?

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We are Mathematicians



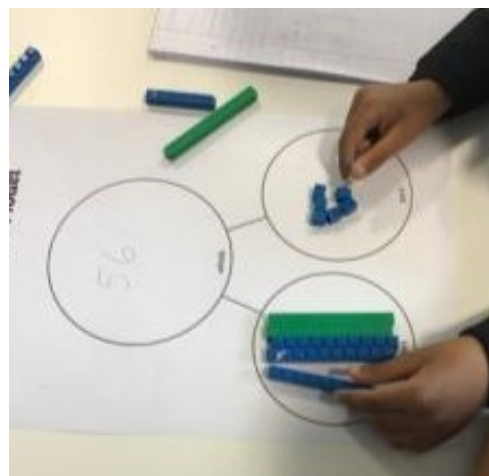
In Maths this term we began by focusing on the place value of numbers to 100, recognising the value of each digit, reading and writing them and comparing and ordering numbers using the $<$ $>$ and $=$ symbols. We also focused on the four operations through our fun and engaging flashback 4's. We created opportunities to use a concrete, pictorial and abstract learning approach which has helped pupils secure their learning. Our pupils really enjoyed being able to work in groups and pairs to solve mathematical problems together. Pupils learnt about the commutative rule for addition recognised and used the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction to check calculations.

"I love using base tens because I can see the numbers"

Aisha A 2A

"Maths is my favourite because we get to use lots of different resources to find the answer" Ikran 2B

Children were also able to recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 and use related facts to 100. As well as this, children were taught to count in their 2, 5, 3 and 10 times table. Next term pupils in year 2 will be looking further into multiplication and division. It will be helpful if they could login to their TTRS logs over the holidays to support with this.



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-Autumn 2 Topics-



'Children must be taught how to think, not what to think.'

Margaret Mead

Next term we have lots of exciting topics that we are eager for the children to get creative with. For history we will be learning about the Great Fire of London and the impact the disaster has had and the changes that it has brought on. This topic will not only include brilliant writing opportunities but lots of art work to be produced. The children will get to experiment with different materials and collages to create their own fire wall and silhouettes of London!

For Science, our pupils will be conducting various experiments and interpreting data to understand the properties and uses of materials, changing states and what recycling is. We are all very excited about this topic as some of our experiments even include chocolate!

All of our topics link with core subjects and it really shows in the children's outcome. Our afternoon sessions help build on previous knowledge of writing genres, sentences structure, imaginative role play, reading comprehensions, maths measuring, analysing data and so much more.

Half term Homework

Choose one of the activities below or really push yourself and have a go at all 3! Remember, on top of this, to complete your reading. This doesn't just have to be books, it can be a magazine or why not try reading a recipe and treating your family with some lovely food or dessert?

Writing – Using your senses to write a poem about fireworks night. What can you hear/smell/see? You could watch some YouTube videos to help you

Maths – Create a tally chart. How many of your friends and family can tell you something about the Great Fire of London?

Creative - Using recyclable materials and create a model house



To be ready for tomorrow's opportunities, do your homework today. Learn, refine your skills, and focus on growth.

Use recyclable materials, research from 1666.

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Religious Education has never been more relevant, engaging or challenging as religion and religious issues are in the news every day. For pupils to be able to understand our constantly changing world they need to be able to interpret religious issues and evaluate their significance. From the pupils first day at school, RE gives students valuable insights into the diverse beliefs and opinions held by people today. It helps with their own personal development & supports an understanding of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural questions that surface again and again in their lives. In tackling difficult questions, it provides pupils with insight that can work to challenge stereotypes, promote cohesion, and tackle extremism. RE serves as a good foundation encouraging young people to value themselves, and the communities within which they live, strengthened by our shared British Values.

"I loved listening to the story about Jesus birth, it was very interesting!"

Samara 2A

"I loved labelling the pictures of the church. I learnt lots of new vocabulary like lectern"

Aisha 2A

We, at Waverley, accept and respect each other's beliefs. We celebrated being imaginative and creative with everyday objects. Children experienced closing their eyes and creating images in their minds. Children were then taught different ways religious traditions. Pupils had an amazing opportunity to visit Birmingham Cathedral and learn about a new faith. They compared this place of worship to their own and asked lots of very interesting questions. The staff at the church were taken aback at how well all year 2 pupils behaved.



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