The Federation of Fairfield Infant and Colneis Junior School

Year 2 Autumn Term Parent and Curriculum Information 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your continued support on a really successful start to the new term. The children have coped brilliantly and have settled into their new routines and classrooms quickly and with ease. We have all been really impressed with how well the children have adapted to their new classes and peers.

Our doors are open from 8:40-8:50 where a staff member will greet your children before going in and taking the register. As I'm sure you can understand, the mornings can be incredibly busy whilst we are settling the children in to their morning work. If you'd like to speak to us, please try and do this at the end of the day where possible. You can also call the school office and they can pass messages on to us.

This term we have started to remind the children of the school's charter and the core values (Please see behaviour policy on the website for more detail and information).

We have a range of rewards for the children such as:

- Bronze, silver and gold stickers
- Praise pads
- Headteachers awards
- Tickets for the treat box
- Earning a class treat



<u>Reading books in Year Two</u>

In Year Two our focus for reading is:

- Continuing to develop our phonic recognition (sounds and graphemes) and building decoding skills with a focus on blending.
- Reading more words by sight and having quicker recall of words they have previously seen.
- Recognising the harder to read and spell words (mouse, water, asked) from our ELS Phonics Programme.
- Building fluency and expression and reading with greater independence.
- Demonstrating comprehension and understanding of the text through answering questions and retrieving answers form a piece of text.

Our school aim for reading is to read **4x a week at home** and for you to comment and sign the home school diary. You will find a weekly information sticker which will tell you the focus for our learning that week. We change books on a **Monday or Tuesday** (dependent on staffing) but please ensure your child has their book in their bags everyday as we read with the children at various times throughout the week.

Your child has an individual login for Oxford Ready Buddy, you will find this in the front of their home school diary. This can be used as one of your child's weekly reading sessions. This provides the children with an opportunity to choose the book they want to read and develop comprehension skills when taking the quiz at the ed of the book.

Numbots and Times Table Rockstars

Your child's individual Numbots and Times Table Rockstars log in will also be stuck into their diary for you to access.

Thank you so much for your support and positivity when embracing the new term. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know your children so far and we look forward to having a brilliant year with them!

Miss Maitland – Year Two Year Group Leader

Year group teachers:	● Miss Maitland 2MA and Year Group Leader ● Miss Aberdein 2MA ● Miss Cruse 2C ● Miss Alexander 2A
Year group support staff:	● Mrs Briers ● Mrs Ely ● Mrs Cobb ● Mrs Ablitt ● Miss Flynn
Dates for the diary: 	**Parents Evening** Parents evening will be held in person at Fairfield on Tuesday 29th September and Wednesday 30th September. You will receive a Parentmail about this in due course. **Monday 12th October 2pm – Welcome talk & Reading/Phonics workshop** Parents/ carers are invited to join the Year Two teachers for a welcome talk. We will spend some time in the main hall talking with you about Year 2 but our main focus will be discussing the way we teach Reading and Phonics at Fairfield. You will then be invited into your child's year group for a selection of activities (Phonics games, reading books and questions and a quiz!) Please indicate on the form from the office whether you can attend the Reading and Phonics workshop. We will send home any resources and handouts home with the children for those of you that are unable to make it. We look forward to seeing you! 😊 **Visit to The Grove- Thursday 5th November (Outdoor Classroom Day)** This term in science we will be looking at living and non-living things as well as habitats. To celebrate outdoor classroom day and our science learning, we are going to visit The Grove and spend some time exploring the environment, habitats and minibeasts. **Christmas concerts** The KS1 Christmas concerts will take place at 10am on the 9th, 10th and 11th December. You will receive a Parentmail about this closer to the time. **Autumn Term reports** These will be sent out on Friday 11th December. **Visit to the church – Monday 14th December** We will be visiting the church to celebrate our Christianity topic in RE in the final week of term. We will send out further information about parent helpers and timings closer to the time.
Curriculum areas to be covered this term in:	
English	**Reading** – During Year 2 we hope to develop love and enthusiasm for reading, through listening to, reading and then talking about a wide range of texts, from different authors and cultural backgrounds. Children will have two reading books that will be changed on a Monday/Tuesday. **Please ensure that you sign your child's diary as the books won't be changed otherwise (as we won't know if they have been read or not).**



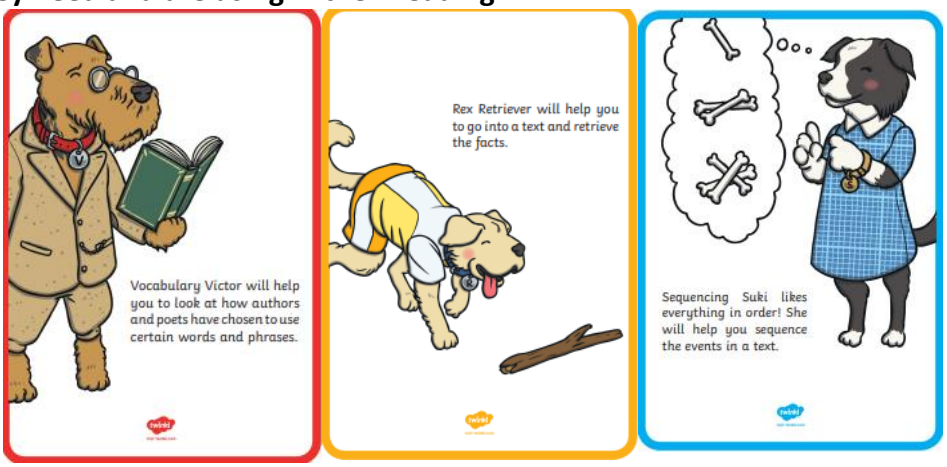
Children will take part in a reading lesson each week and daily phonics sessions practising:

- Reading accurately, blending the sounds (phonemes) in words and being able to segment words into separate sounds.
- Reading words of two or more syllables.
- Read known words quickly and accurately on sight.
- Sound out unfamiliar words accurately and automatically.

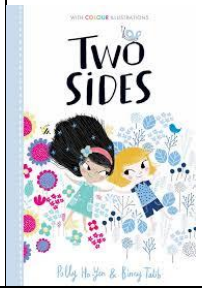
<u>Comprehension</u>- During Year 2 there is a growing emphasis on reading comprehension, including such skills as:

- Inferring what characters are thinking or feeling from what they say and do.
- Answering and asking questions about a text.
- Predicting what might happen in a text.
- Discussing favourite words and phrases and the meaning of this vocabulary.

Oxford Reading Buddy is an excellent resource to help with comprehension and the children should be accessing this as often as possible. We use the Pawsome Gang to help us with our comprehension in school, as it helps the children identify the skills that they need and are using in their reading.

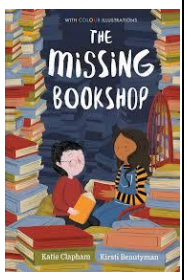






Our first text that we will focus on is Two Sides. The children will read this as a class and have a go at answering some comprehension questions. They will complete activities each week based on which skill they are using such as predicting or inference.

In Autumn 2 we will be reading the book The Missing Bookshop. We will revisit a character skill each week and will have a go at answering questions about the text we have read applying that skill. The children will begin to complete their own written comprehensions based on the story and what we have read.



Spelling – In Year 2 pupils will continue to develop skills by:

- Segmenting words into phonemes (sounds).
- Learning new ways of spelling phonemes for which one or more spellings are already known and learning spellings for each different spelling pattern.

There is a big focus in Year 2 on being able to spell our harder to read and spell words and common exception words.

Common Exception Words

Year 1

a	his	push	was
are	house	put	we
ask	I	said	were
be	is	says	where
by	love	school	you
come	me	she	your
do	my	so	
friend	no	some	
full	of	the	
go	once	there	
has	one	they	
he	our	to	
here	pull	today	

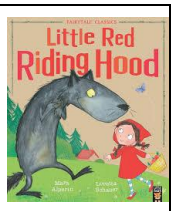
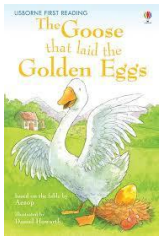
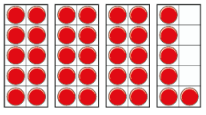
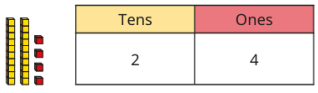
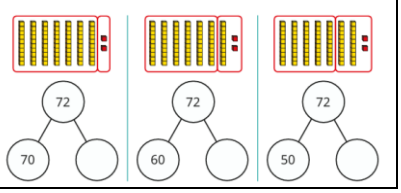
Year 2

after	class	floor	most	pretty
again	climb	gold	move	prove
any	clothes	grass	Mr	should
bath	cold	great	Mrs	steak
beautiful	could	half	old	sugar
because	door	hold	only	sure
behind	even	hour	parents	told
both	every	improve	pass	water
break	everybody	kind	past	who
busy	eye	last	path	whole
child	fast	many	people	wild
children	father	mind	plant	would
Christmas	find	money	poor	

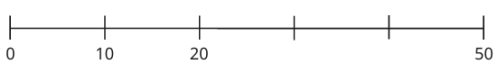
Handwriting – In year 2 pupils will have daily handwriting lessons to consolidate the skills learnt in previous years – correct orientation and formation of letters, use of capital letters and word spacing. After Christmas we will start to use some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters. An example of the types of joins we learn are below, but we will provide more information via Tapestry as and when the children learn these weekly in their handwriting lessons.

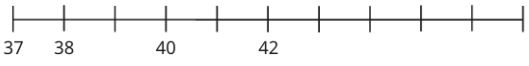
Writing – In Year 2 pupils will be following CUSP writing curriculum to write for a range of purposes. This term the children will be covering the following units:

- **Essential sentence composition –** for the first half term we will be recapping our core sentence skills from Year One. This includes making sure our sentences make sense and express a complete thought. We will be recapping our use of a capital letter to mark the start of a sentence, to identify missing capitals and to use capital letters for proper nouns. We will also be recapping sentence breaks, how to use a full stop to mark the end of a sentence, to understand what a sentence consists of (e.g. nouns). We will also be practising our edit skills and checking that our sentences are of the highest quality.

	• **Character descriptions-** For our first unit we are looking at the story of Little Red Riding Hood and the children will be learning to use adjectives to put into expanded noun phrases e.g. furry, scary wolf. They will also be learning to use adverbs to describe their characters actions e.g. the wolf **sneakily** followed sweet, gentle Little Red Riding Hood into the deep, dark wood. We will also be recapping sentence structures and how to use conjunctions (and, but, because) to make our sentences longer. • **Retelling of a narrative –** We will spend three weeks looking at narratives (stories) and how these can be retold. We will be looking at third person writing (he, she, they) and the past tense. We will be creating a plan of the story for The Goose that laid the Golden Eggs. The children will have a go at sequencing the story and retelling it with detail and description. • **Poetry**– We will be celebrating National Poetry Day during the week beginning the 28th September and will have a go at reading, writing and performing poems within class. • **Stories from other cultures –** We will be looking at a story from another culture and using this to plan and write our own. The children will be learning about China and Chinese New Year and will create a character and setting for their story. We will plan and write our story in different parts such as introducing the characters and the setting, creating a problem in the story, creating a resolution and closing the story.   **The children will be encouraged to write with greater independence and to use the resources to improve their writing (sound mats, thesauruses, dictionaries, word banks).**  **<u>Grammar</u>** – Pupils will learn how to use familiar and new punctuation correctly including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks, commas for lists and apostrophes in words such as can't, won't, didn't. They will also learn to write different forms of a sentence: statement, question, exclamation and command.
Maths 	**<u>Place Value</u>** For the first 4 weeks we will be focusing on place value and learning the following small steps: • Recognising, writing and ordering numbers to 20 • Counting objects to 100 by making `10s e.g. 31 is 10, 20, 30 and 1 extra one • Recognising tens and ones and counting 2-digit numbers • Using place value charts to understand numbers and digit values e.g. 36 is 3 tens and 6 ones • Partitioning numbers to 100 and drawing representations e.g. 24 is 2 ten sticks and 4 ones • Writing numbers to 100 in words e.g. 84 is eighty-four • Flexibly partition numbers to 100 e.g. 72 can be 70 + 2 or 60 + 12 or 50 + 22   

- Counting in 10s and 1s on number lines and filling in the missing numbers. They will then use this to estimate where numbers sit on an empty number line by using our number knowledge.





- Comparing objects and numbers using vocabulary and symbols (< > =)



42 is _____ 46

81 is _____ 60 + 4

30 + 8 is _____ thirty-eight

less than | greater than | equal to

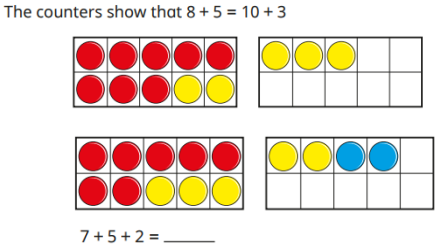
- Count in 2's, 5's, 10's and 3's

Addition and subtraction

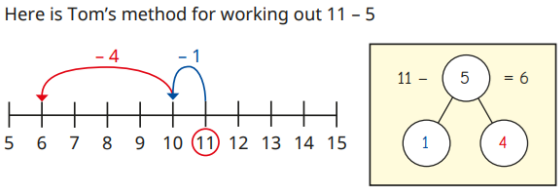
We will focus on addition and subtraction using practical resources, representations drawn by the children and number lines and 100 grids.

We will focus on

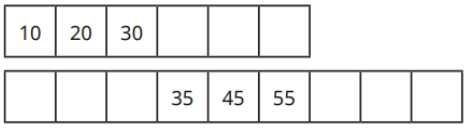
- Number bonds to 10 (4+6, 7+3) and 100 (40+60=100, 70+30=100)
- Fact families (15 + 5 = 20, 5 + 15 = 20, 20-5 = 15, 20-15 = 5)
- Related number facts e.g. 1 + 4 = 5 so 10 + 40 = 50
- Adding and subtracting 1s
- Adding by making 10s
- Adding 3 1-digit numbers



- Adding and subtracting across 10s
- Adding 3 1-digit numbers
- Subtracting 1-digit and 2-digit numbers
- 10 more and 10 less

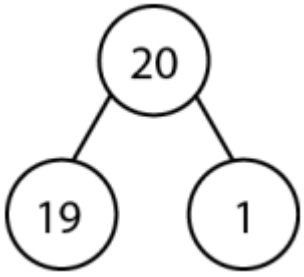


We will support the children so they become fluent in their methods and their understanding of addition and subtraction facts within 20.

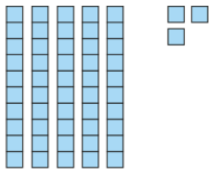


These are the representations and language the children will become familiar with.

Part, Part, Whole

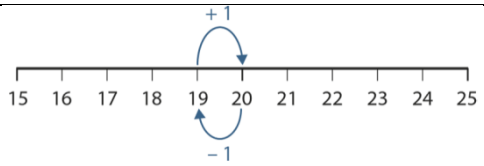


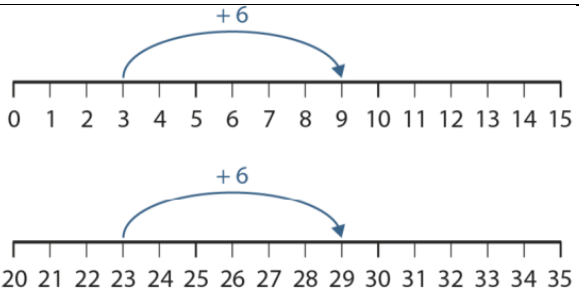
Place Value Grid using 10s and 1s



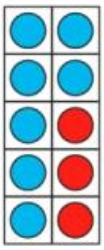
10s	1s
5	3

Number lines



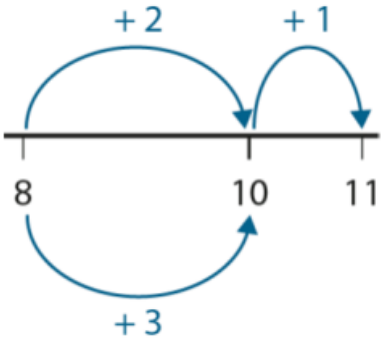


Ten Frames



10 – 3 = 7

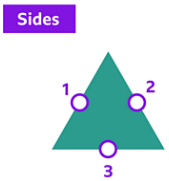
Bridging to 10 – using number facts to 10

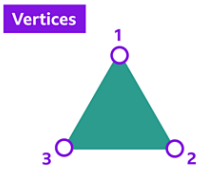


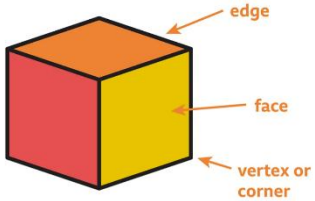
$8 + 3 = 8 + 2 + 1$
$= 10 + 1$
$= 11$

Shape

In our final block of learning for the term we will be learning about shape. We will be learning to recognise and name 2d and 3d shapes, count 2d shapes sides and vertices, draw 2d shapes and find their lines of symmetry, count 3d shapes edges, faces and vertices and to sort them by their properties.







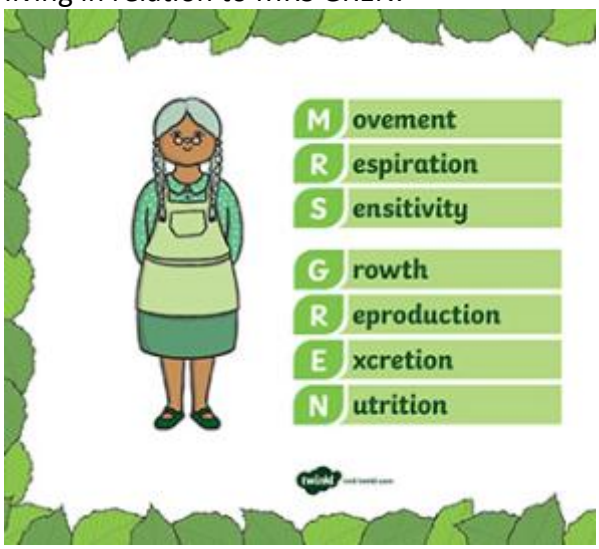
Science



The science topics are:

Investigating what is living or non-living.

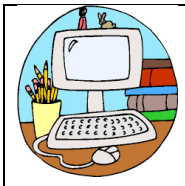
In science we will be exploring our environment looking for items and objects that are living, non-living and will also discuss those which have never lived before. We will be using MRS GREN to help us classify and specify objects. We will spend time exploring outside to find living and non-living things and will be discuss how we know things are living in relation to MRS GREN.



The basic needs of animals

	Over the term we will learn about the needs of living creatures and we will explore their need for shelter, water, food and appropriate conditions. We will look at different animals and what they need to survive. **<u>Different types of habitats and exploring the habitats in our school environment</u>** We will be learning about different animals' habitats around the world and what they need to survive. We will also learn about microhabitats and will explore our school grounds to record what minibeasts we could find and the microhabitats they are in. Through this topic the children will be developing the following scientific skills: • Develop their scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding. • Understand the nature, processes and methods of science • Use a range of scientific language.
History and Geography 	In History we will be learning about The Great Fire of London. Our enquiry question will be 'Why did the Great Fire of London destroy so much of London?'. The children will be comparing past and present London and thinking about the buildings, transport, people and resources. They will also be learning about the key features of this event and how this was nationally significant. They will think about how things changed as a result of this event and why those changes needed to happen. **Pupils will also learn:** ● Begin to develop an awareness of the past, ● Begin to understand where the people and events they study fit in on a timeline ● Learn how to use new everyday historical terms. ● They should ask and answer questions about key features of events. ● Learn about some of the ways in which we find out about the past In Geography the children will be learning to • sort geographical features into physical and human features • identify and track weather patterns • name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas within Europe • use maps to identify hot and cold areas within the world use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to: • key physical features, including: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather • key human features, including: city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office, port, harbour and shop
Art 	Our art focus this term is portraits. We will be exploring the following: • The art of portraiture and why Nicky Philipps is well-known. • How pencils create different lines (wavy, straight, curved and zig zag). • Making light and dark lines depending on pencil pressure. • Drawing a royal portrait. • Adding characteristic elements of a royal portrait. • Discussing elements in our portraits. Their final task will be creating a royal portrait in the style of Nicky Philipps.

	  
PE 	In Autumn 1 the children will be practising their core strength and balance. In Autumn 2 the children will be practising locomotion, travelling and agility, strength and balance. 2MA will be having their dance enrichment sessions. **PE days: Monday and Thursday** **Children will come to school dressed in their PE kits.** **N.B. No earrings or jewellery to be worn on PE days. Hair to be tied back.** **Children will come to school dressed in their PE kits.** Please ensure that your child's PE kit is in line with the school's uniform policy. https://www.fairfieldandcolneis.co.uk/fairfield/fairfield-uniform
RE 	**The big question for the Autumn term is "What do people believe is important?"** We will learn about what people believe is important through the study of Judaism and their belief in Teshuvah. Teshuvah really means "return" although often translated as "repentance". What does God want from us when we make mistakes? The Jewish community is asked by God to do teshuvah, to return to the path God set for them when they were born, the path of goodness, of becoming a better person. Through discussion, film clips, artefacts, images and reading non-fiction texts, the children will gain an understanding of why Jewish communities believe repentance is important. The children will listen to stories that reflect upon forgiveness and repentance and we will explore the festivals and celebrations that are important to the Jewish faith such as Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah. The children will discover how repentance and forgiveness is put into everyday life for Jewish children and their families. We will make links with our own school values of forgiveness, compassion and acceptance as well as the different religions the children have explored in Year 1.
Music 	In Autumn 1 we will be completing the unit Hands, Feet and Heart by Joanna Mangona which is a song that celebrates South African music. The children will listen to and appraise a range of music from around the world. They will build on their knowledge and understanding of music through activities such as vocal warm ups, playing instruments, improvising and composing. At the end of this unit they will perform the song which will be shared on Tapestry. In Autumn 2 we will be completing the unit Ho, Ho, Ho which is a fun Christmas song. The children will continue developing their appraisal skills through listening to a range of music by different artists. They will continue to practise verbal warm ups, singing and playing instruments such as the glockenspiel. We will also be practising our musical pieces for our Christmas Performance during our music lessons 😊
Computing	In Autumn 1, we will be developing our digital literacy by exploring online safety. The children will use our computing tool, Purple Mash, to learn how to refine searches and

	share work on the Purple Mash display boards and with others. We will also begin to discuss and understand that the internet is global. In Autumn 2, we will be exploring coding. The children will explore what an algorithm is and how to create their own. We will explore collision detection, adding timers, various objects and buttons to our algorithms as well as sorting 'smelly codes' (debugging). 😊
Homework	● **Reading at least 4 times a week** – all reading to be recorded in Home/School Reading Diary. This can include school reading book, newspapers, posters, magazines and Oxford Reading Buddy. Children will receive a weekly sticker for their efforts if they read 4 times per week and be entered into the Golden Ticket prize draw. ● **Please ensure their diaries are signed so that we can change their books. If they are not signed we will keep their books the same.** Your child will also have access to a range of online learning opportunities through their Oxford Reading Buddy, Purple Mash and Numbots log ins.