

Year 2 Parent Curriculum Letter Autumn Term 2026			We welcome your child to Year 2 and look forward to working with them. We have planned an exciting curriculum and will be encouraging the children to become independent learners in preparation for KS2.
English	Fiction: Peter and the Wolf (retelling this folk tale). Instructional writing: George's Marvellous Medicine. Recount: Claude's adventures in the city (letter writing). Poetry: '10 Things found in a Wizard's Pocket.' Spelling: Children will work through the Year 2 curriculum for spelling which focuses on spelling patterns and high frequency words following the Little Wandle scheme. Reading: Children will complete a carousel of activities each week including reading with the teacher and teaching assistant, as well as reading for pleasure and completing comprehension activities. They will read their scheme books with an adult during the week at various points. Handwriting: Handwriting will be taught on a daily basis using the Penpals scheme. Speaking and listening skills: themed 'Show and Tell' activities as well as daily oral practice incorporated into our English lessons.		
Maths	Place Value: Children will recognise the place value of each digit in a two-digit number (tens, ones), identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations, including the number line. Compare and order numbers from 0 up to 100; use and = signs. Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and in words. Addition and Subtraction: Children will recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and use related facts up to 100. They will also learn to add and subtract one and two digit numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally. Shape: Children will learn to identify and describe the properties of 2-D shapes, including the number of sides and line symmetry in a vertical line. They will also identify and describe the properties of 3-D shapes, including the number of edges, vertices and faces. Children will have access to the Numbots website if they wish to practise their number skills: https://numbots.com/ This can also be downloaded as an app. Log ins are found in your child's Reading Record Book.		
Science	Autumn 1: The Real Food Rebellion: This project is focused on improving the health and well-being of children and adolescents and their future life chances. It aims to plant seeds of change that will grow and transform the lives of children and their parents and future generations to come. Autumn 2: Materials: We will investigate the properties of materials, using scientific vocabulary to describe and sort them into groups. We will explore natural and manufactured materials, and research how everyday objects are made. Children will also learn about the scientist, John Dunlop. The children will enjoy a workshop delivered by StemPoint in the second half of the Autumn term.		
Computing	Computing Systems and Networks: Exploring what a computer is by identifying different inputs and outputs and understanding how computers process information. Word Processing: Exploring word-processing software by using keyboard shortcuts, importing images and applying simple editing tools such as bold, italics, underlining and font colour.		
P.S.H.E.	We will be exploring the children's learning experiences with the aim of helping them to navigate their world and to develop positive relationships with themselves and others. With a strong emphasis on emotional literacy, building resilience and nurturing mental and physical health. Our first topic is: Being Me in My World. As part of this topic, we will discuss hopes and fears for the year; rights and responsibilities and rewards and consequences. Our second topic is: Celebrating Difference. This unit looks at the differences between us all and how to be a good friend.		
History	The Gunpowder Plot: This unit explores an event beyond living memory which is significant nationally or globally and develop an awareness of people, events and changes of the past, specifically Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot. They will explore the following questions: Where and when did the Gunpowder Plot happen? What was the role of religion during the Stuart era? Who was Guy Fawkes and how did he become involved in the Gunpowder Plot? Can you retell the events of the Gunpowder Plot in chronological order? Why do we still celebrate Bonfire Night? How do we know about the Gunpowder Plot and why is it a significant event in history?		
Geography	Villages, towns and cities: Children will learn about the differences between villages, towns and cities in terms of their size and physical and human features. This will also focus on the features of Harpenden in a local study. They will explore the following questions: Where are the world's people? What is a settlement? What affects where people live? How are cities and villages different to live in? What human and physical features can I find in my settlement? Can I sketch a map of my environment?		
Art Design & Technology	Art: The children will develop their drawing skills this term. We will examine the work of Julian Opie and focusing on portrait sketches. A Balanced Diet – Wraps: Through their exploration of what makes a balanced diet, pupils taste test food combinations of different food groups. They will also aim to make a wrap that includes a healthy mix of protein, vegetables and dairy, and learn about the term 'hidden sugars'.		
P.E. P.E. kit needs to be in school every day	Autumn Games: Various skills in preparation for games, including ball control, throwing and catching, tactics and passing. Football and Tag Rugby will be taught by Mr Blackman this term. PE sessions will be taught twice a week. Holly class: Monday and Thursday. Hawthorn: Thursday and Friday.		
R.E.	We are following a new RE scheme produced by Kapow. Each unit has an overarching Big Question, which will then be explored from lots of different perspectives. This half term we will be focused on "Why do we need to give thanks?" investigating how people express gratitude by exploring beliefs and practices linked to making offerings. After October half term, we will be focusing on "Why is light important to people?" examining the symbolism of light in different religious and worldview traditions by exploring festivals, stories and artwork.		

Music	We will be using the Charanga scheme: Explore Simple Patterns (Pulse, rhythm and pitch) . Christmas production preparation.
Home learning	Daily reading. 'Show and Tell' presentations (letter has been sent out explaining this). Numbots (Log In details are in your child's Reading Record Book).