

Dunmore Primary School

Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter - Autumn Term 1 2025

 Ideas to try at home



Science – Animals and humans In science, we will be finding out about and describing the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air). We will learn about: • How animals change as they grow? • How have we changed since being born? • What do we need to survive? • What do other animals need to survive? 	History – Space Explorers In history, we will be investigating important events within living memory. We will learn about: • How scientists learnt about space before rockets were invented. • What was the Space Race and why was it important? • Who were the first people to travel to space and the moon. • What space exploration is like today.   Find out what food is like in space!
PE – Team Games and Yoga In P.E., we will be focusing on team games and yoga this term. We will be thinking about: • How we can use our bodies with control to complete a task. • How we can increase balance to hold shapes. • How we can work together to show good sportsmanship.   Try Abingdon's Junior Parkrun	Design & Technology – Moving Vehicles In Design and Technology, we will be thinking about how vehicles move. We will explore the process of: • Thinking like an engineer • Designing a moving vehicle • Building • Testing • Refining • Evaluating 
Music – Beat, Rhythm and Rhyme • Recap of key songs and skills from Year 1 • Singing with a sense of melody and steady beat • Clapping and playing 4-beat rhythm patterns • Exploring rhymes and chants to develop rhythmic awareness • Listening and responding to music with focus on beat and rhythm 	Computing – Key skills development Our aim in the first few weeks is to help the children become more independent with logging on and navigating around the home screen and the keyboard of a computer. We will be equipping the children with the skills to stay safe online. 
P.S.H.E – Being Me in My World • Hopes and fears for the future • Our rights and responsibilities • Rewards and consequences	R.E. – sacred books and texts In RE, we will be learning about sacred books and texts. We will think about what books are special to us and which books are sacred for different religions.
Art – Mark Making In Art, we will be using a range of media including pastels, watercolours, pencils and charcoal to learn about shading and colour mixing to develop creativity and fine motor skills.	Joke! What is an astronaut's favourite chocolate? A mars bar! 

English – Adventure stories

In English this term, we will be focusing on creating cohesive sentences with a capital letter, a full stop, and finger spaces. We will be using a range of high-quality texts to support vocabulary development. We will also use art and drama to consider how characters feel. Throughout, we will be writing exciting adventure stories.



Can you think of an adventure story? Read some adventure stories together. What do you enjoy about them?



Maths – place value and number skills

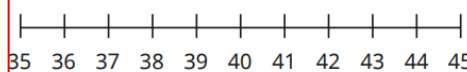
- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s
- Recognising ones and tens to 100.

How many bricks are there?



- Comparing and ordering numbers to 100.

Circle 37 and 42 on the number line.



- Writing numbers to 100 in digits and words.
- Recognising simple methods for adding and subtracting.

Important Information

Reading	✓ New books are sent home every Friday. Please make sure your child is reading with you at least 3 times each week. Please sign their reading record each time. ✓ Reading books and reading records need to come to school every day.
Spelling Homework	✓ This year we will be sharing a list of common exception words with you and we will send home some words that relate to our phonics for that term. ✓ Instead of weekly spelling tests, we will assess their retrieval of the words they learn in phonics through how they use them in class-based tasks. ✓ If you are able to practise spellings with them at home, especially common exception words, then please do- but there won't be a weekly test.
Times Table Rockstars	✓ Times Table Rock Stars is our main form of maths homework. We regularly have competitions for the whole class to participate in! If you need a new log-in, please speak to your child's teacher as soon as possible.
PE	✓ Argentina (Mrs Noake/Mrs Smith): Monday and Wednesday ✓ Brazil (Miss Hatley): Monday and Friday Please ensure that PE kits (including suitable footwear and weather appropriate clothing) are labelled and in school all week.

What does my child need to bring to school every day?

A **water bottle** and a **lunchbox** (unless your child has hot-school dinners)

An **appropriate coat** as the weather gets colder

Reading book and reading record

Please don't allow your child to bring oversized bags (including large rucksacks) or toys to school. Unfortunately, we do not have room in our cloakroom to store these items.

Due to concerns about items being lost, we have limited keyrings on bags to one per child.

Key Dates

- ✓ Friday 19th September – Friday Football begins
- ✓ Week beginning Monday 22nd September – Music Flood Week
- ✓ Thursday 25th September – Individual school photographs
- ✓ Friday 26th September – Denise Beaumont author visit in KS1
- ✓ Wednesday 1st October - KS1/EYFS Open Doors: Phonics/Reading and Maths 9am & 2:15pm
- ✓ Wednesday 8th October - Coffee morning for parents of service children
- ✓ Thursday 16th October 9-10am - Reading Open Morning (KS1 and EYFS)
- ✓ Wednesday 22nd October - Coffee morning for parents of children with SEND
- ✓ Friday 24th October – International week Open Classrooms – **parents welcome from 2.50pm**
- ✓ Friday 24th October – Term finishes at 3:15pm (Pupils return to school on Monday 3rd November)