

Cheddington Combined School



Year 2
Mrs Majcher



Curriculum Overview Autumn 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome to your child's first term in Year 2. I am really looking forward to getting to know them all better.

Year 2 Team

Mrs Majcher – Year 2 Teacher

Mrs Davies – HLTA

During the autumn term we will be looking at 'Living Things' (their classification, habitats, lifecycles, and adaptation), 'Famous People'- (Charles Darwin, Mary Seacole, Jacques Cousteau, Florence Nightingale and Beatrix Potter) and 'Places' (from local landmarks to the seven continents and five oceans of the world.)

In English our focus will be on further developing our skills in listening and speaking, reading a wide range of texts and developing our comprehension skills to retrieve information to answer questions, sequence events and explain characters and vocabulary. We will be reading 'Dougals Deep Sea Diary' however please save the story just for school! You may want to read some other books written by Simon Bartram. We will be focusing on narrative writing and diary writing.

In Maths the children will cover topics including: place value, addition and subtraction, and shape. In place value we will be looking at partitioning two-digit numbers into multiples of ten and ones; interpreting and using place values; identifying odd and even numbers. In addition and subtraction, the children will be looking at addition and subtraction to 10; developing calculation strategies to add or subtract two digit numbers. In shape we will look at the properties of 2D and 3D shapes; lines of symmetry; sorting shapes; making patterns.

In Science we will be looking at 'What makes a thing living, dead or never been alive?'. We will explore classification of living things and through case studies investigate: habitat, lifecycles, adaptation and food chains of living things. We will also start to look at how living things change through the seasons and this term areas of focus will include seeds and seed dispersal and migration.

In R.E. we will be looking at 'All about me'. We will be finding out what it means to be us, thinking about our friends and families, our hobbies and interests. We will see what the Bible says people should be like and what we think the perfect person could be, aiming to answer the question 'Who am I?'

In Geography we will be looking at our local environment: what is in it, what impact we have on it, as well as what could be changed. We will be developing our understanding of how a map is used. We will also be developing our knowledge of the world's seven continents and five oceans.

In History we will focus on the lives of 'Famous People' including Charles Darwin, Florence Nightingale and Beatrix Potter, as well as the significance of 'Remembrance Day'. We will compare Charles Darwin to Jacques Cousteau (conservationists) and Florence Nightingale to Jennifer Worth (nurses).

P.E this term will be on Mondays and Thursday. We will be focusing on developing our ball skills for team games and developing multi skills. For PE sessions, please ensure your child has their outdoor games kit (red shorts, house colour polo shirt, spare socks trainers and tracksuit (black or green)) with them as all P.E. will be outdoors at present.

We would like to remind you that during PE, for safety reasons, long hair should be tied back and ear-rings should not be worn. However, if your child cannot remove their own ear-rings, please ensure they are taped to cover them up. No jewellery is permitted in school except for a watch and plain stud ear-rings. Please note that aerosol sprays are not permitted in school.

In Art we will be looking at developing our skills in drawing by exploring mark making to show tone, texture and shape. We will also extend our knowledge of different styles used by famous artists, such as Henri Matisse and Bridget Riley.

In PSHE we will be looking at physical health, mental wellbeing, families and friendships and keeping safe in different environments. Learning will specifically cover why sleep is important, dental hygiene, managing feelings, asking for help, making friends and getting help if feeling lonely.

Each half term in music focuses on a different style or genre. This half term our music is inspired by South African music. We then focus on Christmas music as we rehearse our nativity.

Finally, we will continue to promote Growth Mind-set in school. This relates to the way in which we approach and tackle daily challenges, with an "I can try my hardest and not give up even though I find this difficult" rather than "I cannot do this".

Homework – Please feel free to use your child's Home School Diary as a means of communication between us. Let us know immediately if there are any problems regarding the homework, or any other matter, so that we can try to solve any problems before they become too big!

Homework activities will be set on a Friday and the children will have until the following Wednesday to complete them. Please stick loose sheets into homework books. Details of the homework set can be found on the VLE as well as in your child's Home School Diary. Occasionally research work around a topic will be set and children will be given two to three weeks to complete this work.

Reading books will be changed once a week. Please make sure your child reads and discusses these books with an adult. This helps them to build their comprehension as well as reading the words. Your child will also need to spend 5 minutes each day practising their weekly spellings, number bonds or time tables.

Our library slot is on a Friday. Children will bring home a library book to enjoy and will need bringing back the following Friday so that they can choose a new one.

Please sign your child's Home School Record each week to show that you know that your child has completed the homework and reading, and to record their 5 minutes of skills practice (spellings, number bonds, times tables.)

VLE - Please make sure you log on each week to the VLE:

<http://www.cheddingtonschool.org/website> (passwords are in your child's diary). The site is updated each week with links to topic sites, information on our learning in class, news of activities and photos/videos of our work. Your child can message others in their class too. Could I ask that you continue to contact us with queries via the Home School Diary or via the school office. Children please keep sending me your updates.

How you can help your child.

- Please ensure that your child's belongings are labelled.
- Ensure that your child has their correct equipment required in school; **class water bottle, home school record book, PE kit.**
- Any monies brought into school at any time should be in a clearly labelled, named envelope.
- Please support and encourage your child with their homework and sign their homework diaries once a week. Please encourage independence.
- Listen to your child read and help them practise their number bonds or tables and spellings each week.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Majcher – Year 2 Class Teacher