

Year 2 Overview for Parents & Carers 2025-26



Introduction: This overview is to help parents to understand what the children will be learning while they are in Year 2. The first page shows the general timetable for the class and the following page gives an overview of the learning going on in each half term 'unit'.

Our curriculum is built on exciting ideas: each half term we will be immersing ourselves in an idea, connecting skills in literacy, maths, science and computing to our theme, as well as becoming familiar with artwork, music and the lives of interesting people who have a connection to the ideas we are exploring. Our curriculum is dynamic so during the year we may change elements in response to new opportunities.

Core skills: Our English and maths curriculum aims to help children develop a range of skills over the year. In English, the children will read common exception words, develop their reading comprehension skills, write in a range of genres with a focus on grammar, spelling, punctuation and vocabulary. In maths, this will include a continual development of areas such as number, data, shape & space and measure. The 'Curriculum Themes' below give some specific aspects of how we incorporate the skills and what we will be focusing on at various points during the year.

Year 2 Timetable: This is a summary timetable, showing the normal organisation of learning in Year 2. *The timetable is flexible and is subject to change during the year.*

	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Havdallah English Maths Ivrit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> T'fila English Maths Ivrit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> T'fila English Maths Ivrit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> T'fila Spellings PE (NSA) Parsha Ivrit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kabbalat Shabbat English Maths Theme / Art
PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science Phonics / Guided reading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jewish Learning PE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music / Computing Library Phonics Handwriting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phonics / Guided reading Handwriting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSHE Check & explain home learning Mystery Reader

Reading books are changed on a **Monday**.

Supporting your child's learning in Year 2:

- A key way to support your child's learning is by reading with, and to them, every day. Focus on making reading fun as well as asking comprehension questions for them to orally answer, to check their understanding.
- Taking your child to visit exciting places of learning, such as art exhibitions or the Natural History Museum can give them an opportunity to share their learning with you and to further embed the things they have explored in school.
- Visit and share experiences of how your family began, by visiting family members to learn about their family history. Researching into your family tree will help the children to know more about their lives too.
- Support your child's growing mathematical understanding by helping them to practise counting in steps, creating addition and subtraction number sentences to help their mental maths skills.
- Involve them in cookery, gardening and other areas of home life in order to help them practise their developing skills in estimating, weighing and measuring.
- Practise reciting and ordering the months of the year and reinforcing their general knowledge on days, hours, minutes and seconds.
- Have fun with families of animals, instruments and how groups of people see their communities as their family too.
- During the year we will be exposing children to the lives of 'interesting people'. You can further stimulate their interest and understanding by researching these individuals, in encyclopaedias and online.

Curriculum Themes for Year 2

<p style="text-align: center;">September-October: Families</p> <p>The half term will be spent immersing ourselves into the history, structures and customs of our family lives. We will spend time understanding the reasons why families are important, the differences and similarities of our family structures in comparison with others, and how different families incorporate different traditions. We will be creating our own family trees! We will also explore the story <i>Grace and Family</i> by Mary Hoffman and Caroline Binch, which most of our English work this term will be based on. In maths, we will begin the year by recapping key learning from Year 1. We will cover place value, addition and subtraction, which will form the foundations for the rest of our learning in Year 2. In science, we will be looking at animals and their habitats.</p> <p>Our Jewish learning will be focussed on Abraham and Sarah's family tree, where the children will be learning the body language of the Amidah prayer as well as learning the first paragraph by heart.</p> <p>This half term we will be taking part in our exciting Heads-Up Kids program. The children will have the opportunity to create a strong baseline for emotional literacy and regulating our emotions. This may also continue into the Spring term.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">November-December: Freedom</p> <p>This half term, we will be engaging with the concept of Freedom. What Freedom means to us, to others around the world, and how some people still do not feel as free as we do in the United Kingdom. Our theme lessons will explore what democracy is, how it is implemented, and the impact it has on society. In addition, we will be learning about the story of the Suffragettes. We will explore who they were, the key events in their campaign, and why some of their protests became violent. A key focus will be a discussion around whether it is ever acceptable to use violence to achieve our goals. A trip to the Museum of the Home will allow us to explore stories of equality in the home, with a particular focus on women and gender. We will also explore the story <i>Azzi in Between</i> by Sarah Garland, which most of our English work this term will be based on. In maths, our focus will be on working with 2D and 3D shapes as well as developing our understanding of money. In science, we will be exploring sound.</p> <p>Our Jewish learning this half term will focus on the freedom of choice in relation to Jewish law (Halakha) and important Jewish inspirations who used their personal freedom to form customs and traditions.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">January-February: Dress & Identity</p> <p>In this topic, the children will learn about the history of clothing and explore the idea of <i>fashion</i>. They will consider the lives of people whose clothing and dress codes differ from ours and develop an understanding of why certain items of clothing are more suitable in different parts of the world. The children will also design and create textile clothing for paper dolls, linking this creative work to our science learning about materials. In maths, we will be focusing on multiplication and division.</p> <p>Our Jewish learning will be centred on Jewish clothing and dress. We will explore the significance of kippot, tallitot and the concept of <i>tzniut</i> (modesty). The children will research Jewish laws relating to clothing, including the wearing of leather, tying shoes, and the prohibition of mixing wool with linen. We will also explore the custom of wearing specific clothing for Purim.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">March-April: Explorers & Discoverers</p> <p>This half term, the children will learn about the lives and experiences of a variety of explorers and discoverers. They will also share their own journeys and the places they have visited, while discussing why exploring and discovering are such important parts of life. We will study the lives of significant figures, including Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong, and consider the impact they have had on today's society. The children will also explore the concept of diversity and reflect on how qualities such as perseverance and determination are essential for becoming an explorer. In maths, we will be focusing on time and measurement. In English, our text will be <i>Traction Man</i> by Mini Grey.</p> <p>Our Jewish learning will focus on Biblical stories about travellers, including the spies in the desert and the Exodus from Egypt. The children will also discuss appropriate blessings linked to journeys, as well as explore how customs are practiced differently around the world.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">April-May: London</p> <p>This half term, the children will immerse themselves in key events that are important to London as a city and research its famous landmarks. We will visit the Tower of London and explore the life and story of Samuel Pepys, learning how the Great Fire of London caused chaos and became a world-famous historical event. In Art, the children will create Great Fire of London silhouettes. In English, we will be reading <i>Paddington</i> by Michael Bond. In Maths, the children will study fractions and explore position and direction using the London Underground map. In Science, we will investigate plants by growing our own cress.</p> <p>In Jewish learning, the children will learn about the local Jewish community, including its denominations and structures. They will also explore London's Jewish history and the geographical locations of Jewish communities across the city.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June-July: Pupil led topic</p> <p>This half term will be a class-chosen topic. The children will be guided and supported to include a variety of mathematical, literacy, science, arts, humanities, Jewish prayers and ICT skills within this topic.</p>