

## Hoad Curriculum Overview Autumn 1 24 'All Things Australia'

### Literacy

We will be using various texts based on traditional Australian folk tales as the basis for our writing this year, including Wombat Goes Walkabout and The Rainbow Bird. We will be focusing on using connectives to link and extend our sentences as well as learning about word families such as nouns, adjectives and verbs.

### Spelling

Year 2 children will bring home spellings each week, usually on a Monday to learn throughout the week. We use the Look, Cover, Say, Write, Check method which I will model for the children in the first weeks of term. They may need a little support initially but should eventually be able to practise their spellings independently. There is a column for each day on the sheet we provide. We generally find that 'little and often' is the best approach to learning spellings, and this should only take a few minutes each day. On Fridays we do Spelling Challenge to see how well the children have learnt their spellings. We often do further spelling practise as part of our Morning Work as well as practising them in 'joined-up' writing. The spellings may be linked to for example, spelling patterns we are learning or new vocabulary for topics or Y1 / Y2 Common Exception words.

I will include a list of the Common Exception words Year 2 are meant to be able to spell by the end of the year for reference.

### Reading

Library Book Change Day is **Monday**. Please ensure your child's library book is in their reading folder if they wish to change it on Monday morning. Your child chooses their own library book. It may be above their current reading ability and could be shared with older siblings, parents or carers.

Home School Reading Books are changed on **Tuesdays and Fridays**. As children move through Year 2 texts often become longer and your child may need more sessions to complete the texts. We are continuing to focus on fluency in reading so if you feel your child would benefit from additional sessions with their book please either keep the folder at home, or leave a note in your child's reading record. If your child is still 'chunking' up words and 'blending' out loud for large parts of the text, this indicates they may need repeated re-reads of the text to develop this fluency, as we do when we read in the classroom.

We will start to learn cursive letters this term in preparation for 'joined up' writing. I will send home a sheet as part of our Year 2 Learning Pack to show how the letters are formed in case children want to do additional practice at home

### Maths

Year 2 children start to learn their tables this term. We will send home your child's log in for Times Tables Rockstars (online game) as part of their Learning Pack along with copies of each of the tables.

Our maths units for Autumn 1 are Place Value (Numbers up to 100) and addition and subtraction in which we will begin to investigate different methods of calculations, including different written methods.

## RE

The focus for this half term is baptism. We will look at the significance of the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan and how this defined the start of his ministry. We will talk about the children's experience of christenings and hold our own baptism and celebration for the naming of our class doll. We will also look at how babies are welcomed into other world faiths.

## Geography

We will revisit geographical vocabulary linked to continents, oceans and the different climate zones of the world with a particular focus on Australia. We will use weather charts to log the weather at different points throughout the school year, learning the symbols and how the length of our day is affected by the seasons.

## Science

Our first science topic is based on human body parts and senses. We will be planning and conducting different investigations to help us find out about e.g. our sense of sight, smell and touch. We will learn simple ways of recording experiments and findings.

We will also conduct the first of our seasonal visits to Plantation Woods on Little Hoad to look at the signs of late Summer / Early Autumn.

## Art / DT

We will be looking at the self-portraits of famous artists and use these as 'jumping off' points to do our own using different media and portraying different expressions. We will also look at traditional Aboriginal dot painting and the work of modern Australian artists.

In DT we will focus on food preparation, using simple utensils to plan and make for our Hoad baptism party later in the term.

## PSHCEE

Our first unit of this academic year is going to be based on relationships. We will look at what makes a good friend, how to make friends with new people and how to manage relationships if there is conflict.

## PE

We will be using both the floor and the large apparatus to learn about balancing on points (small body areas) and patches (larger body areas). Our dance unit is based on Rainforests, linked to our work on Australia.

Our PE days are Thursday and Friday. Please ensure your child has a complete named PE kit and that any earrings are removed for these days. Thank you.

## Music

We will learn a song called Hey you! Practising keeping the pulse and playing tuned instruments. The class will use musical vocabulary to compare and contrast this with other songs we have learnt.

## Computing

We begin this term learning about online safety, the importance of logging in and out securely and why it is important to keep passwords confidential.