



PURLEIGH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
AUTUMN TERM 2026
WELCOME TO YEAR 2



This term our topic will be:
TIME TRAVELLERS!



This term in Year 2 we have some exciting activities planned, based on our topic, **Time Travellers**. We will be focussing on the study of significant events that are beyond the children's living memory, including the Great Fire of London, the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II and World Wars 1 and 2. We will study the lives of significant people in the past such as Guy Fawkes, Florence Nightingale and Edith Cavell.

Our Science learning this term will centre on the theme of **Healthy Animals**. We will look at what animals, including humans, need for survival and we will be investigating the effects of exercise, food and hygiene.

For English work this term, we will focus on traditional tales and stories in familiar settings. We will practise storytelling techniques and will learn to write postcards and letters. Our work with non-fiction will include writing instructions and recounts, some of which will be covered during topic work, including the study of The Great Fire of London and the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth the Second. The children will practise specific aspects of grammar and will work on improving their handwriting, learning to join letters.



In **Maths** sessions this term, we will continue to use White Rose Maths to develop mastery with block units focussed on place value initially, followed by addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. We will be encouraging the children to begin to practise their times tables, beginning with 10s, and then moving to 2s and 5s. We appreciate your support with this. Each Maths lesson will begin with a 10-15 minute mental arithmetic session to keep number skills sharp.

Maths work on Fridays will focus on recognising and describing 2D and 3D shapes.

Art and D.T. sessions will include using mixed media to produce scenes from the Great Fire of London, and designing and making a time machine. The children will investigate the work of Jackson Pollock, dripping, drizzling and splashing paint to create images in a similar style to the artist. Children will learn how to evaluate their work.

In **Computing**, we will begin our learning with a review of Internet safety. The children will explore methods of creating, storing and sharing pictures, information and stories using ICT. We will learn about algorithms and will create simple programs (coding). The children will have regular opportunities to use computers as part of their topic work, also, practising word processing skills and using the Internet for research.

Using the NATRE Scheme for **R.E.**, the children's learning will focus on what Christians say Jesus brings. Pupils will learn about the concept of the gospel and consider the work covered in this unit from different worldviews.

P.E. lessons will take place on **Tuesdays** and **Wednesdays**. As usual, for safety, long hair must be tied back and **earrings removed**. **Please note that earrings cannot be taped according to the Essex County Council Health and Safety Policy.** As previously communicated, children should come into school wearing P.E. kit on their P.E. days. Plimsolls will be kept in school for indoor P.E., but the children should come to school prepared for outside activities, so trainers, jogging bottoms and a warm top. (This could be the school cardigan if you are struggling to find a plain fleece or sweatshirt.)

Homework: Please see the Year 2 Autumn Term homework document. The children should bring in completed tasks or homework books by Wednesday each week. Work will be marked and homework books returned each Friday, ready for the weekend. Other than the list of homework tasks given, listening to your child read on a daily basis will be crucial to his or her progress. At school, reading books will be changed every day where a new book is required. Talking to your child about his or her choice of book and what is happening in the story will develop greater comprehension and literary skills, now that they have mastered the very first stages of reading. Discussions about characters and how they are portrayed will also help to develop writing skills. Please encourage your child to read a variety of books from home and from school and record all feedback in the Reading Record Book. Reading books to your child, which are beyond the level of that which they can read independently, will contribute towards extending his or her vocabulary and will support the development of writing. As part of our learning towards mastery in maths, the children will have an arithmetic task to complete each week. Spellings will be sent home weekly for children to practise. These will be based on the spelling patterns required by the National Curriculum in Year 2.

LSAs working with Year 2 this year will be Mrs. Lombard, Mrs. Jones and Miss. Brock, who is a trainee teacher who will be working with us during the Autumn Term.

Please feel free to contact me either via your child's Reading Record Book, by e-mail at year2@purleigh.essex.sch.uk or by phone call to the school office if you have any concerns or queries.

Thank you,
Mr Coker