

Topic Information – Year 2

Across the year, we teach the children through different topics. These are enquiry based and arranged into half termly blocks.

Autumn Term:

Land Ahoy!

Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum! Get ready to take to the high seas and set sail in search of treasure! Get your sea legs on, it's time to sail the salty seas.

We find out about boats and ships of all shapes and sizes and pirates from the Golden Age as well as write postcards, poetry and look at stories about the seas.

We make boats, fly a flag and navigate the world just like Captain Cook. We will sing a sea shanty whilst cleaning the poop deck and search the grounds for hidden treasure! That's land ahead, me buckos! Let's get t'ship t'port!

Spring 1:

Beachcombers

Pack up some sandwiches, pick up a fishing net and keep your eyes peeled because in this topic we're off to the coast to go beachcombing! We bring the beach to the classroom as well as try to visit the beach and Brighton Sealife Centre to find out about sea creatures. We experience sights, sounds and smells of the seashore to discover living and non-living things. Exploration of shells, pebbles and seaweed help us learn about a wide range of coastal plants and creatures. Maps and film footage help us to find out more about the coast and we create a wide variety of artwork. We use books and the internet to search for information about the seashore and use our knowledge to write our own non-fiction reports. At the end of the project, we decide how we should look after the coastal environment and how the beach can be kept clean.

Spring 2:

Magnificent Monarchs

Hear ye! Hear Ye! By order of Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II, I hereby proclaim we will be learning about magnificent monarchs through time.

In the Magnificent Monarchs project, we learn about English and British monarchs from AD 871 to the present day and consider how the power of the monarchy has changed over time. We study a variety of significant sovereigns such as: William the Conqueror, Henry VIII, Queen Victoria and the current monarch, Elizabeth II. We research into the types of jobs you would have in a castle or palace. We decide which of the sovereigns we have studied, is the most significant.

As we near Easter we will be answering 'Why Easter is important to Christians?'

Summer 1:

Muck, Mess and Mixtures

This topic focusses on the science and art investigation of mixtures and textures. We enjoy the story of *George's Marvellous Medicine* and write recipes, leaflets, lists and stories of our own. We use our science skills to explore everyday materials and understand why mixtures freeze and melt. We learn how to measure using scales, measuring jugs and cylinders accurately. Our artwork will rely on our mixing skills. We create pieces of art inspired by Carl Warner and Andy Goldsworthy. At the end of our project, we turn our classroom into an art gallery create an exhibition.

Summer 2:

Scented Garden

Let's tiptoe through the tulips together and discover the sights, sounds and smells of the garden. This topic teaches us how to look after plants and create a garden of our own. We write an information book about plants, follow instructions, enjoy the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and write stories of our own. We learn about the different parts of a plant and create our own 'planting and growing' action rhyme. Our senses will help us describe and sort a range of smells. We look closely at a wide variety of plants, create detailed, observational drawings and press real flowers to use in collages. At the end of our project and after working hard developing, caring and growing our very own Scented Garden, we pot up and having a Garden Centre Sale.

