Pentland Primary School
Curriculum Overview
Year 2
Autumn 1

The Pentland value we are focussing on this half term is resilience.

English

Writing and Reading:

This term, children will develop their reading, speaking and writing skills through the texts *Perfectly Norman* by Tom Percival, *Cops and Robbers* by Janet and Allan Ahlberg and *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark* by Jill Tomlinson. Through discussing these stories, pupils will explore themes, characters and key events, sharing their ideas and opinions. They will also write their own narratives, focusing on creating engaging characters, organising events clearly and using descriptive language to bring their stories to life.

Grammar

This term, children will develop their understanding of grammar by learning to identify different word types, including nouns, proper nouns, verbs, adjectives, articles and conjunctions. They will practise using capital letters and full stops correctly and explore how adjectives add detail to writing. Pupils will also learn and apply spelling rules, including adding -ing to root words and changing y or dropping e where appropriate. These skills will be reinforced through grammar and English lessons to support accurate and effective writing

PRSHE:

We will learn about friendships, kindness and respect. Using *Giraffes Can't Dance* and *Once Upon a Time Online*, they will explore bullying, teasing and exclusion, both online and offline. Pupils will learn how words and actions affect others, how to seek help from trusted adults, and why everyone deserves to feel included and valued.

Humanities (History, Geography)

Geography

Children will explore the question *"What is life like in London?"* They will learn about London's location, its role as the capital city, and the different types of transport used to travel around it. Pupils will investigate London's parks, green spaces and the River Thames, while also planning a day out in Scotland. Through map work, they will annotate maps of the school grounds, describe and locate their favourite places, and learn about both natural and human wonders of the world.

History

This term, children will explore the question *"Which was worse, the Great Fire of London or the Great Fire of Gateshead?"* They will learn about these significant historical events, examining their causes, impact and importance. Pupils will compare the two fires and consider how they affected people and communities. They will also develop their understanding of events beyond living memory that are significant nationally and locally, helping them to understand how the past has shaped the world around them.

Science

Animals including humans:

Children will learn about *Animals, Including Humans*. They will identify and name different groups of animals, including mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles, and learn about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Pupils will compare the features of different animals and explore similarities and differences between them. They will also identify, draw and label the main parts of the human body and learn about the five senses. Through a range of scientific enquiries, children will develop their skills in observing, classifying, grouping and investigating the world around them.

Books/resources/films/music/visits/visitors/role play etc

Perfectly Norman- Tom Percival
Cops and Robbers- Janet and Allan Ahlberg
The owl who was afraid of the dark- Jill Tomlinson

Computing

Children will learn about online identity and staying safe online. They will explore how people may present themselves differently online and offline, discuss how to get help with online worries, and make safe choices when using technology. Pupils will also develop their digital photography skills and use photo-editing tools to create and improve images as part of a *Creating Media* unit

PE

In PE children will develop their skills in invasion games through activities such as skittles, focusing on teamwork, aiming and control. In gymnastics, they will explore balancing, movement and body control through the *Balancing Act* unit, building confidence, coordination and fundamental physical skills.

PE Days

Wednesday and Friday

Maths

Mental

Alongside completing the mastering number programme, children will build confidence and fluency in key mental maths skills. They will practise counting forwards and backwards, counting in 10s, doubling and halving numbers, and partitioning numbers into different parts. Pupils will also develop their rapid recall of number bonds to 20, helping them to solve calculations more efficiently. These key instant recall facts will be reinforced regularly through practical activities, games and daily maths sessions to support children's understanding and confidence in number

Main

Children will develop their understanding of place value, positioning and counting with numbers to 100. They will use practical resources such as tens frames, cubes, place value counters and dienes to explore tens and ones, compare and order numbers, and build confidence in counting. Pupils will also learn addition and subtraction within 100, including applying these skills to money. Through practical activities and problem-solving tasks, children will develop their understanding of number and become more confident and efficient mathematicians.

RE

We will be exploring the question, "Who was Guru Nanak and why is he important to Sikhs?" They will develop an understanding of Sikhism as a religion and learn about the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh holy book, and why it is known as the living Guru. Pupils will also learn about the life of Guru Nanak and his teachings, discussing the role of a guru as a teacher and guide within Sikhism.

Creative (Art, DT, Music)

Art

We will explore the work of artists Andy Goldsworthy and Georges Braque. They will develop collage skills, including tearing, cutting, layering and sticking materials to create patterns and textures. Pupils will experiment with a range of materials, including natural objects, to create imaginative artwork inspired by nature and the environment.

DT

This term, children will explore mechanisms by designing and making their own vehicles. They will follow the design process by researching, planning, building, testing and evaluating their creations. Pupils will learn about key vehicle components, including wheels, axles and chassis, and develop practical skills in measuring, assembling and improving their designs.

Music

In music, children will develop their singing, listening and musicianship skills through the Charanga music programme. They will learn and sing a range of songs, explore rhythm and pitch, and identify changes in tempo. Pupils will listen to different styles of music, describe what they hear, and learn about the stories and traditions behind the music.

Websites

www.topmarks.co.uk
For parents | Letters and Sounds

Related UNCRC Articles

Article 12 – Children have the right to express their views and have them taken seriously.
Article 13 – Children have the right to share their thoughts, ideas and information.
Article 17 – Children have the right to access information from a range of sources.
Article 19 – Children have the right to be protected from all forms of violence, abuse and bullying.
Article 28 – Children have the right to an education.