Year 2 Newsletter - Autumn Term 2 2026

We hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable October break. This newsletter is designed to give you a clear overview of what your child will be learning in Year 2 this half term. Inside, you'll find key dates, important class information, and summaries of the main areas of learning.

Timetable

Start: Gates open at 8.30am. Register 8.40am.

Finish: 3:00pm, gates close 3.10pm. Please leave the school site promptly.

Clubs: 3pm—4pm

PE Days: Monday and Thursday (children will come into school in PE kits on these days)

Key Dates for the Half Term

Friday 13th November—Year 2 Warwick Castle trip

Thursday 10th December—Christmas Dinner Day

Friday 18th December—Last day of Autumn Term

Y2 Staff Team

2FD - Miss Doyle

Mrs M

2SH—Miss Hobbs

Miss Javed

Home Learning

The children are going to be given one book to read a week. They should read this book two to three times to build their fluency and comprehension of each text that they read. Please can Reading Diaries be signed 3 times a week.

DT: In DT, children will be learning all about creating structures using paper. The children will design and create a chair for Baby Bear from 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'.

Music: In Music this Half Term, the children will be learning songs for the KS1 Christmas Assembly.

R.E: In RE this Half Term, the children will be exploring beliefs about what candles mean to other people and reflecting on the similarities and differences between festivals.

P.S.H.E: This half term in PSHE, the children will be completing topic called 'Celebrate'. This topic is looks at the idea that we all have different character strengths and that, by understanding what they are and then using them as much as possible, we can be at our best.

Haydon Abbey School and Pre-School

Year 2: Autumn 2 2025

P.E Days:
Monday
Thursday



Indoor PE – Fundamental Movement Skills
Outside PE – Fundamental Movement Skills



History
What is a monarch?

This Half Term, the children will be finding out what a monarch is. Following on from this, the children will be finding out about some key monarchs throughout history.

The children will also learn about castles and will find out about how these have changed over time.

Key words: king, monarchy, power, queen, ruler



Maths:

This Half Term the children will begin by re-capping number and place value.

After this, the children will begin to learn about 2D and 3D shapes.

This Half Term the children will also re-cap addition and subtraction.

Reading:
The children take part in a phonics or spelling lesson each day. The children are beginning to learn spelling rules and applying these to a range of words.
The children also read in small groups three times a week, these lessons focus on sounding out, prosody and comprehension.
Please encourage your child to read their book at home each night.

Writing:
This half term the children will be using the book 'George's Marvellous Medicine'.

In the first two weeks the children will be writing rhyming poems and then the children will start to look at balanced arguments.

Please encourage your child to write short sentences or short stories at home.



Science:
Microhabitats

This Half Term the children will be finding out about microhabitats.

The children will also be finding out about minibeasts, asking questions about minibeasts and using scientific enquiry methods to find answers.

Key words: food chain, microhabitat, minibeast, research, results, test

KIRF: I know the doubles and halves of numbers

Children need to understand how to find half, and how to double numbers up to 20. They should be able to instantly recall what double and half is of each number to 20.

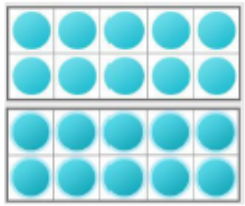
KIRFS - Year Two – Autumn 2

What can this look like?

Concrete:



Pictorial:



Abstract:

Double 10 is 20

Half of 20 is 10.

Questions to ask at home

What is **double** 9?
What is **half** of 4?
How can we find **half** of 8? Explain how we can **double** 5.

Key vocabulary

Double- adding a number twice e.g. 6 + 6 or multiplying the number by 2 e.g. 6 x 2.

Half- splitting a number into 2, dividing by 2 e.g. 10 divided by 2 is 5. (Please note that children may not fully understand what division is yet, they will be simply splitting the number into two groups.)

Activity ideas:

Doubling butterfly- Draw an outline of a ladybird, paint spots on one side; fold it over to show double that number. Write the calculation to go with it.

Doubles bingo- Choose 5 numbers between 1-20. Ask questions such as, what is double 6 or what is half of 18. Keep going until all numbers have been crossed off!

Double or nothing- Create a 6 x 6 grid with a numbers 1-24. Working in a pair, roll 2 dice, double the number and cover the number with a counter/object. The first to get 4 in a row wins!

Websites:

https://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/archeryDoubles/index.html

https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button

Science - Microhabitats

A **microhabitat** is a small area with different conditions to the surrounding area.



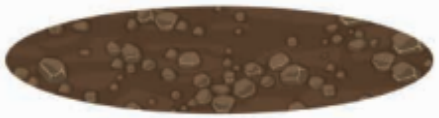
under logs and stones



grass



leaf litter



soil

Minibeasts are small creatures without a backbone.

Minibeasts are small creatures without a backbone.

woodlouse



ladybird



snail



worm



Minibeasts live in microhabitats that provide them with **food** and **shelter**.

Scientists use **super Science skills** to find answers to questions.

Super Science skills	
Researching	
Observing over time	
Comparative and fair testing	
Grouping	
Spotting patterns	

History - What is a monarch?

battle	A fight between two armies.
conquer	To take control of a country.
defend	To resist an attack
invade	To take over a country.
power	To have control.
ruler	The person in charge of a country or kingdom.
king*	A man who rules a country or area.
queen*	A woman who rules a country or area.
monarchy*	A country that has king or queen.

Bayeux tapestry



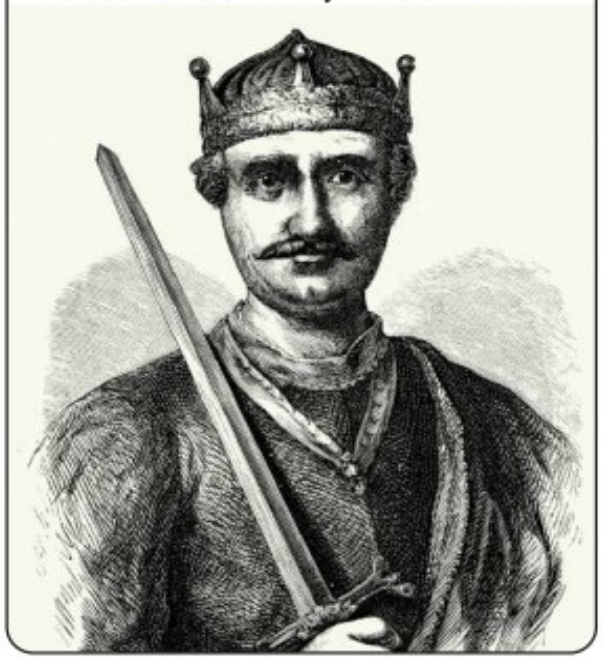
A long piece of decorated fabric that tells the story of the Norman Conquest of England in 1066.

King Charles III, 2022



Credit: UK Parliament / Roger Harris
Contributor: Xinhua / Alamy Stock Photo

William the Conqueror, 1066



Coronation



Credit: Chronicle / Alamy Stock Photo

A special religious ceremony where a new king or queen is crowned.

Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation, 1953.

*key vocabulary

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Iron Age fort



Concentric castle



Fortified manor house



Credit: Peter Jordan / Alamy Stock Photo

Motte and bailey castle



Stone keep castle



Parts of a castle







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Structures - Baby bear's chair

Function	How something works.
Man-made	Made by people.
Mould	To form different shapes out of soft, squishy materials.
Natural	Found in nature e.g. spider's web, sheep's wool.
Stable	Object does not easily topple over.
Stiff	A material or object that does not bend easily (e.g. wood).
Strong	Something that is not easily broken (e.g. wood, brick, building).
Structure	Something that has been made and put together and can usually stand on its own (e.g. a building, a bridge, a chair).
Test	To find out whether something works as it should.
Weak	Something that is easily broken (e.g. paper, egg shells).

Natural Objects





Man-made Objects





Key facts

Kapow Primary

Often **structures** have a certain **function**, they are made to do something. e.g. Chairs are for sitting on.



They should be **stable**, **strong** and comfortable. Was baby bear's chair **stable** and **strong**?

