

Year 2 Curriculum Letter - Spring Term 2026

Welcome to the Spring Term

English

Reading:

This term, children will focus on developing key comprehension skills including retrieval, summarising, inference and personal response. We will explore a wide range of text types, including poetry, stories and non-fiction, helping children to talk about what they have read and explain their ideas clearly. This term, our focus texts include: *'The Quangle Wangle's Hat'* by Edward Lear, *'Coming to England'* by Floella Benjamin, *'The Street Beneath My Feet'* by Charlotte Guillain, *'Rhythm of the Rain'* by Grahame Baker-Smith and Aesop's fable *'The Sun and the Wind'*. These texts will support children in building their understanding, enjoyment and confidence in reading.



Writing:

In our writing lessons this term, children will explore a range of exciting texts to develop their writing skills in line with the Year 2 curriculum objectives. We will begin by writing a narrative inspired by Bethan Woollvin's *'Rapunzel'*, focusing on character, setting and story structure. Children will then write a non-chronological report about an animal of their choice, using *'Big Blue Whale'* by Nicola Davies as a model. Later, we will create another narrative based on *'Julian is a Mermaid'* by Jessica Love, before finishing the term by writing clear instructions inspired by *'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth'* by Michelle Robinson.

Handwriting:

During our handwriting lessons, children are taught to use cursive writing to form their lower-case letters. We start with mastering the basic shape of the different letter families as shown below:

- l, t, j, i
- u, y
- b, h, k, m, n, p, r
- c, a, d, o
- g, q, s
- e, f, x, v, w, z

Spelling:

We are currently teaching spellings on a daily basis with lessons focusing on various spelling rules including:

- Silent letters e.g. 'gn', 'kn' and 'wr'
- Dropping the 'e' to add a suffix e.g. -ed
- 'dge' and 'ge'
- Sound variations e.g. 'a', 'ar' and 'or'
- Swapping the 'y' for an 'i' when adding a suffix e.g. -es
- 'ey'
- -le, -al, -il, -el.

Maths

In Maths this term, children will develop their understanding across a range of key areas. We will begin with statistics, learning how to collect and interpret data using tally charts, tables, graphs and pictograms. In addition and subtraction, children will practise written methods and explore the concept of commutativity. Our work on measurement will focus on telling the time to the nearest five minutes using both analogue and digital clocks. Finally, we will explore multiplication and division through repeated addition, learning multiples of numbers, and understanding division through sharing and grouping. All learning will support the Year 2 Maths curriculum objectives and build confidence in problem-solving.

Art & Design:

In Art and Design this term, children will focus on drawing, using the work of artist David Hockney as inspiration. We will explore the key question, "How are landscapes created?" as children observe and discuss a range of landscape artworks and images. They will experiment with a variety of drawing tools to create different lines, textures and blends, developing control and confidence in their techniques. Children will learn to identify the four main parts of a landscape and apply this understanding when creating their own detailed landscape drawings, using secondary source images to support their work.

Computing:

In Computing, children will work towards the KS1 computing objectives by developing their understanding of basic computing skills and learning how to stay safe online.

We will begin with Robot Algorithms, where children will learn what an algorithm is and how to create and input simple, clear sequences of instructions to control a Bee-Bot and make it move around a set area. Later in the term, we will move on to programming quizzes, using digital tools to design and create their own online quizzes. Children will test, refine and evaluate their work, as well as give and receive feedback with their peers.

Design Technology (DT):

In Design Technology, children will develop their skills through two exciting topics!

In Mechanisms, they will explore the question, 'Are bigger wheels always better?', designing, making and evaluating their own vehicles while learning about how wheels and axles work.

In 'Understanding Materials', children will investigate 'How can you waterproof a hat?', experimenting with a range of materials such as oil pastels and crayons to test different ways of making a paper hat waterproof. These activities will encourage creativity, problem-solving and practical skills, while helping children to evaluate and improve their designs.

Geography:

In Geography this term, children will use the local area to develop their fieldwork and map skills in line with the Year 2 curriculum objectives. They will explore the school grounds and surrounding area, learning how to observe, identify and record key human and physical features. Through simple maps, symbols and directional language, children will build confidence in using and creating maps. Practical fieldwork activities, including walks around the school grounds and local area, will help children apply their skills and gain a deeper understanding of their immediate environment.

History:

In History this term, children will work towards the Year 2 curriculum objectives by learning about the history of our local area, Welwyn Garden City.

They will explore how the town has changed over time, including why it was built and what makes it unique. This learning will include a walk around the local area, allowing children to observe historical features first-hand and compare past and present. Through photographs, stories and simple timelines, children will develop an understanding of changes within living memory and the significance of people and places in Welwyn Garden City's history.

Leader in Me & The 8 Habits:

Throughout the academic year, the children recap each 'Habit' and how we can use them in school.

The children began the year by recalling the '8 Habits' and now for the remainder of the year we will be focusing on each habit in depth and finding ways to show the habits in the classroom and around the school.

Leader in Me is taught every Tuesday and Thursday.

Music:

In Music this term, children will explore two key topics that build their musical understanding and performance skills. Our first unit, 'Introducing Rhythm and Pulse', will teach children key musical vocabulary such as compose, rhythm patterns and tempo, as well as introduce them to the British origins and style of stomp music. Children will compose short rhythm patterns and perform both individually and as part of an ensemble. In our second unit, 'Introducing Pitch', children will learn that pitch can be controlled through singing and when playing instruments, and that an octave is a series of eight notes in a musical scale. They will describe the pitch of a composition and copy back simple musical phrases, controlling pitch with increasing confidence.

Physical Education (PE):

In PE this term, children will take part in a range of activities designed to develop their physical skills, confidence and teamwork. Our topics include *Gymnastics: Linking*, where children will combine movements into short sequences, *Ball Skills: Hands*, focusing on control, throwing and catching, and *Dance: Explorers*, which encourages creativity and expression through movement. Later in the term, we will return to gymnastics with a focus on *Pathways*, exploring different ways of travelling and moving. PE lessons will continue to be taught by Mr Passade and the class teacher. Children must wear their PE kit on their PE days to fully participate in lessons.

Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education (PSHE):

This term we will be teaching the children about 'Positive Friendships', focusing on how we can be a good friend, using our manners and showing respect and how to resolve conflict - this work will also link with the 8 Habits e.g. thinking 'win-win'.

We will then move on to the topic of 'Online Safety and Caring Communities' where the children will build on their knowledge of how to stay safe online, learn about what it means to belong to a community and identify what makes them the same and different to others.

Science

In Science this term, children will explore the topics '*Uses of Everyday Materials*' and '*Living Things and Their Habitats*'.

Children will explore a range of common materials, learning to identify and compare their uses based on properties such as strength, flexibility and waterproofing. They will investigate how materials can be changed and used for different purposes.

When revisiting '*Living Things and Their Habitats*', children will identify and name a variety of plants and animals, explore different habitats and learn how living things are suited to their environments. Through observation and simple investigations, children will develop their scientific enquiry skills and curiosity about the world around them.

Religious Education (RE) & Worldviews:

Year 2 will be exploring the religion of Islam. We will be learning about the main beliefs held by Muslims and exploring The 5 Pillars of Islam and what each pillar means.

We will also be learning about Ramadan and Eid. RE lessons will continue to be taught by Mrs Wake.

Attendance & Punctuality:

Attendance is vital. If your child is unable to attend school, we request that all parents/carers contact the school office (email or phone) to report their child's absence by 8:30am at the latest.

Year 2 drop-off/collection times:

Gates open: 8:30am

Soft Start: 8:35am

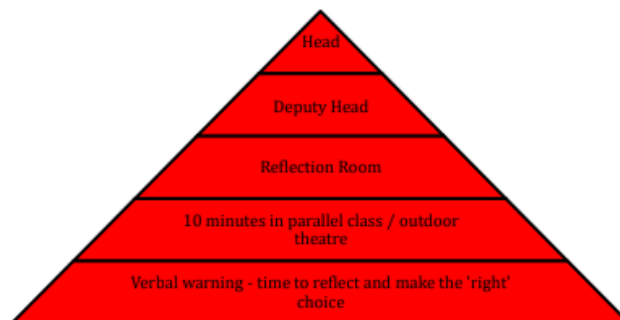
Beginning of the day: 8:45am - lessons begin and the register closes (*registers close at 8:45am and your child will be marked late if arrival is past this time*).

End of day collection: 3:15pm

A reminder that 96% and above equals good attendance.

Behaviour & Discipline:

In Year 2, the use of the green and red triangle is continued. If your child makes 'Valued' (pro-social) choices at school, they will earn their way onto the green triangle, however if they display 'detrimental' (antisocial) behaviours, they will proceed to the consequences of the red triangle (see images below).



Communication:

Please arrange a meeting with us via email: admin@applecroft.herts.sch.uk

All communication will be sent via email. Google Classroom will be used for reminders throughout the year as well as uploading home learning so please check weekly.

Home Learning:

Home learning will be set on a Friday afternoon. Please ensure you check Google Classroom at least once a week for the home learning as well as any further updates. Home learning will largely consist of spellings and maths but there may occasionally be other tasks to complete. It is the expectation that all children must read every day for at least 10 minutes.

Key Dates:

Spring term begins - Monday 5th January
Papaya Parent Workshop - Friday 16th January @9-10.30am
Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 10th January
Maths Day (more details to follow) - Friday 6th February
Half Term - Monday 16th-Friday 20th February
World Book Day (more details to follow) - Thursday 5th March
Book Fair at school (more details to follow) - Monday 9th- Friday 13th March
Sons of Pitches Workshops - Friday 13th March
Sons of Pitches Concert - Saturday 14th March
Rocksteady Spring Term Concerts - Wednesday 18th March
End of term (Finish at 2pm) - Friday 27th March

Safeguarding:

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Mrs Ruth Johnson (Lead DSL)

Mrs Lisa Withe

Mr Paul Wyatt

Ms Jale Apicella

Miss Eloise Yates

Mrs Carey O'Connor

If you have any concerns regarding safeguarding, please contact our DSLs via

safeguarding@applecroft.herts.sch.uk.

For urgent safeguarding matters please phone the school office on 01707 323 758

Staffing in the Year Group:

Mrs Jade Ansell - Monet Class Teacher and Year Group Leader (Monday, Thursday, Friday)

Mr Paul Wyatt - Deputy Headteacher, Phase Leader and Monet Class Teacher (Tuesday & Wednesday)

Ms Hannah Sparkes - Goldsworthy Class Teacher

Miss Sarah Edlin - Learning Support Assistant

Ms Hijuan Ma - Learning Support Assistant

Mrs Vikki Wake - PPA Lead - RE

Mr Bradley Passade - PPA Lead - PE

Timetable:

	8:15 - 8.30	8:35 - 8:50	8:50 - 9:05	9:05 - 10:00	10:00 - 10.20	10:20 - 10:35 am	10:40 - 11.00	11:00 - 12:00pm	12- 1pm	1pm - 2pm	2-3pm	3- 3:15 pm
M on d a y	T E A M M E E T I N G	Regist er EMW/ RFP	Assembly /Phase Meeting	English Writing	Phonics/ Spelling		English Reading	Maths		PE PPA (1.00 - 2.00)	RE PPA (2.00-3.00)	C L A S S R E A D A L O U D
Tu e s d a y		Regist er EMW/ RFP	Leader in Me	English Writing	Reading Practice	B R E A K	Spelling	Maths	L U N C H	PE	BLOCK MODULE	
W e d n e s d a y		Regist er EMW/ RFP	Assembly	English Writing	Reading Practice		Spelling	Maths		BLOCK MODULE	BLOCK MODULE	
Th u r s d a y		Regist er EMW/ RFP	Leader in Me	English Writing	Reading Practice		Spelling	Maths		BLOCK MODULE	BLOCK MODULE	
Fr i d a y		STAFF BRIEFI NG	Regist er EMW/ RFP	Assembly (Until 9.15)	English Writing		Phonics/ Spelling	English Reading		Maths	PSHE	

Uniform Expectations:

School Uniform:

- Red jumper/cardigan
- Grey trousers, skirts, shorts or pinafore dress
- White polo shirts, shirt/blouse
- Smart, black shoes
- White/grey socks
- Grey/red tights
- Grey/red/white hair bands/clips/Alice bands only.

PE Uniform:

- Plain white/Applecroft t-shirt
- Plain black shorts
- Plain black jogging bottoms
- Plain black/Applecroft hoodie
- Trainers