



RADFORD SEMELE

CoFE PRIMARY SCHOOL

A family of learners expecting the best

May we have
life to the full
John 10:10

Year 2 Termly Overview

Autumn 2026

Welcome back to a new school year! I am so excited for our first term in Year 2. I hope you find our termly overview useful. Here you will find a brief overview of what we will be covering in school this term. Have a look at our knowledge organisers on our class webpage and curriculum pages for more detail! If you have any further questions, please email me!

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Values and Ethos

Our school vision is "A family of learners expecting the best", underpinned by our Bible quote from John 10:10: "I have come that they may have life and have it to the full". Every child is valued as an individual at our friendly and welcoming school. We foster a love of learning, make lasting memories and take pride in achieving educational excellence. At Radford Semele, we also focus on supporting children to become kind, generous and responsible members of society. Our school vision and school values are at the heart of all that we do. Our values are taught through collective worship, are woven through our curriculum and underpin our Behaviour Policy.

We have six school values - respect, creativity, perseverance, forgiveness, responsibility and generosity.



English

In our English lessons we will be developing our:

- Reading skills, including learning the Stage Three phonics sounds, developing our decoding and ability to answer comprehension questions.
- Speaking and listening skills by adapting how we speak in different situations, using specialist talk and asking questions to find out more.
- Spelling (see our spelling rules on our class page!)
- Handwriting by thinking carefully about the size and spacing of our letters and beginning to learn about the diagonal strokes needed to join some letters.
- Writing including writing simple stories, descriptions, newspaper reports, information texts and poems.
- Punctuation and grammar focusing on word types (nouns, adjectives and verbs) and accurate use of the present and past tenses.

Music

Autumn 1: We will start by finding out about call and response. In this unit, we will be using instruments to represent animals, copying rhythms and creating call and response rhythms.

Autumn 2: In the second half term, we will use instruments for musical story telling. We will learn how events, actions and feelings within stories can be represented by pitch, dynamics and tempo.

Theme (History/Geography)

Our theme this term is called 'Fire and Light'.

This theme is a history focus! In our history lessons, we will explore significant events and people in history which are all linked to fire and light! We will start by learning about the Great Fire of London which then provides a great comparison to our local study of the Great Fire of Warwick. Linking to Bonfire Night in the autumn term, we will find out about the Gunpowder plot. Finally, we will find out about the work of 'The lady of the lamp' Florence Nightingale.



Computing

We take part in weekly computing lessons. In Autumn 1, we will be learning all about photography. In Autumn 2, we will learn how to write algorithms (sets of instructions) to create quizzes on Scratch Jr.

Maths

In maths this term, we will be focussing on:

- Place Value
- Addition and subtraction
- Geometry (shape)

We will make sure we can confidently count, read, write and partition numbers to 100. We will practise our mental addition/ subtraction and then move on to using the column method to add/ subtract two 2-digit numbers.

Finally, we will recognise 2D and 3D shapes and think about their properties including lines of symmetry.

DT

In Autumn 2, we will take part in a weekly DT lesson. In this unit, we will explore how to use levers, linkages and pivots to make things move. We will start by exploring popular toys that use these before designing, making and evaluating a moving dragon toy with opening mouth.

RE

We take part in weekly RE lessons.

In Autumn 1, we will find out about Islamic worldviews. We will learn more about what God is like for those with Muslim worldviews, think about why living in harmony is so important, learn how Muslims demonstrate their beliefs, why the Qur'an is so important, what the role of Muhammad (PBUH) is and explore the concept of the Five Pillars of Islam.

In Autumn 2, we will explore why Christmas matters to Christians. Children will learn that Christians believe Jesus is God and that he was born in Bethlehem. They will look at the Bible story of Jesus' birth and understand how Christians celebrate this time including through Advent.



PSHE

We have weekly PSHE lessons. PSHE lessons allow children to learn how to share their opinions, ensuring that they listen to those of others, taking turns and showing respect for each other. This term, we will be learning all about:

Autumn 1- Rights, rules and responsibilities. In this unit, children will have the opportunity to identify their own responsibilities. We will reflect on our school rules and talk about why they have been made and what they mean. We will begin to develop an understanding of democratic decisions and how these affect their everyday lives, including experiencing voting and its outcomes in the classroom.

Autumn 2- My emotions. This unit will help develop children's understanding of their own emotions and those of others. They will explore how those emotions affect how we think, feel and behave. In order to enable them to develop positive self-esteem, they will identify what is special about themselves, including their skills as well as their character. They will consider ways to deal with different emotions, including being assertive, and using strategies to calm down and relax. They will revisit their personal networks, identifying those they can talk to about their feelings.



Science

Every week, we have an afternoon of science. Our first unit will be about the uses of everyday materials. We will look at a variety of everyday materials including wood, metal, plastic, fabric, glass, rock, paper and cardboard. We will explore their properties and think about their suitability for different objects and purposes. We will also find out how the shapes of solid objects can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

Art

We will have an art lesson every week in Autumn 1. Our art lessons are linked to our theme of 'Fire and Light'. We will study the colours in the colour wheel and categorise warm colours to represent fire. We will study the symmetrical nature of Tudor buildings and represent these in different ways and look at Turner's representations of London.



PE

We have 2 hours of PE every week on Wednesday and Thursday. Please make sure your child keeps their PE kit on their peg. We will send it home at the end of the half term or if it gets very dirty!

Autumn 1: We will learn about throwing and catching and develop our cricket skills as well as taking part in a 'Multi Skills' unit to develop a variety of physical skills.

Autumn 2: We will develop our gymnastic skills as well as developing our fitness in a 'Cool Core' unit!

Looking for more ways to help at home? Here are some additional things you may wish to practise:

- We have a big focus on handwriting this term so any activities to strengthen fine motor skills such as drawing, colouring, painting, cutting and sticking. Helping to put pegs on the washing line, getting dressed using buttons/zips and playing with building blocks/ playdough/ jigsaws also all help build finger strength and control!
- In Year 2, we learn our 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We will be focusing on these in the spring term after Christmas but these are great to practise at home through fun games!
- Linking to our learning in science, have a chat about what different things are made from around the home and discuss why are they made from that material.
- If you have access to a device, download Scratch Jr and have a play around to see what you can do!
- See if you can find any books or information online about our theme. What can you find out about The Great Fire of London, The Gunpowder Plot or Florence Nightingale? If you would like to create any information to share with the class, we would love to display it on our theme display in the classroom!

Year 2 weekly homework expectations:

Read with an adult at least five times per week and complete the phonics weekly practice sheet. To help record and celebrate children's reading, every child will receive a reading diary at the start of term. Parents, carers and children should use the diary to record when they have read and to communicate with school about their child's progress.

Additional Homework (Optional)

For those parents who wish to further extend their child's learning at home, each class webpage will include the following, which can be accessed at any time to support parents with home-learning:

- Reading Activities – Tasks to help children reflect on the books they've read and develop a love of reading. These can be sent into school and shared during our weekly library session. We have included enough activities if you would like to select one per week.
- Spellings – You will find all of the spelling words and rules your child will learn on their class page. These words will constantly be practised and revisited throughout the year including at the start of each lesson. This regular practise will replace our weekly spelling test. You will also have access to the Spelling Shed app for fun, online practice to consolidate their spellings.
- Maths– A selection of key maths concepts and arithmetic skills to practise at home, plus Times Table Rockstars logins for interactive practice.
- Phonics – To support phonics development, you will find a link to your child's phonics song on their class page. This song is sung daily in school to help children remember the sounds they will consolidate all year. You will also find some suggested activities to practise decoding ('sounding out' letters in order to read a word) and segmenting (breaking down spoken words into the individual sounds you can hear in order to write them).