Mount Pleasant Lane Primary School

Curriculum Newsletter

Year 2

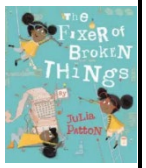
2026 Autumn Term 2



Dear parents and carers,

What a fantastic start to the school year we have had! I am so impressed with how the children have settled into year 2 and how they have demonstrated our school values in the classroom and beyond. I am so excited to start a new half term with our topic being all about India. As December edges closer, we will be preparing to put on our Christmas production which is sure to impress!

Mrs Edrich

PE days & kit required:	Our PE days are on **Wednesday** and **Friday**. Children need to come to school in their PE kits. Please go to the website to see the PE uniform. Earrings will need to be taken out or taped for PE lessons.
Homework:	Children are expected to read and log their reading at least **4 x per week on Boom Reader**. Your child's banded book can be changed any day, and their choice library book can be changed on a Monday. A sheet will be sent home explaining the phonics sounds we are completing in school for you to practise at home. A sheet is sent home every week with phonic sounds, words and sentences to read and practise.
Contact us: 	Communication is vital to us supporting the school community effectively. Please speak to us on the door at drop off or pick up if you have a short query or message. For longer conversations, please email admin@mountpleasant.herts.sch.uk. Please be aware that teachers are teaching throughout the day so will be unable to speak to you immediately.
Our recommended read: 	**The Fixer of Broken Things – Julia Patton** This is a great story for children that teaches us the value of being there for each other. The main character Bea is the fixer of broken things, and she is good at it. Everything is going well, until Bea comes across a small item that she cannot fix, no matter how hard she tries. Everyone is busy with their machines and Bea feels sadness and closes her workshop. Read the book to find out how Bea deals with this situation.

Our topic this half term is: India

English: In Writing, we are going to start our new Talk for Writing unit based on the "Lava Dragon". We are writing a non fiction explanation text making sure we are using capital letters, full stops, conjunctions and questions!
Before Christmas, we will write a lovely wintery Christmas poem using our spellings and high frequency words.

Maths: In maths, we will continue with addition and subtraction. We will be learning how to add and subtract 2-digit numbers.
In our fluency, we will consolidate our bonds to 10, 20 and 100 to ensure we know these quickly. We will also be practising different methods for adding and subtracting mentally.

Reading: In our reading, we will continue to focus on reading skills such as retrieval, sequencing and inference. We will also continue working on our reading fluency throughout. We will read:

- **On the way home by Jill Murphy**
- **Too Small Tola by Atinuke**

Spellings: Following the ELS Spelling schemes, we will be focusing on alternative sounds in words and begin to understand homophones. We will focus on some Common Exception Words too.

Science: In science, we are continuing to explore Living Things and Their Habitats. The children will be able to describe the conditions in a habitat and a microhabitat and name some plants and animals in it. We will also explore some food chains.



Computing: Our topic this half term is digital photography. The children will learn to recognise that different devices can be used to capture photographs and will gain experience capturing, editing, and improving photos. Finally, they will use this knowledge to recognise that images they see may not be real.

Geography: In Geography the children will compare the villages of Bricket Wood and Chembakolli, India. They will learn about key human geographical features, such as types of buildings, transport and local amenities. Children will also continue to develop and practise key geographical skills, such as using maps and atlases.

R.E: Our big question this half term is 'Why do Christians believe God gave Jesus to the world?' In this unit of learning, we will be learning to reflect on the Christmas story and the reasons for Jesus' birth focusing on how we show love to the world.

P.S.H.E.: In P.S.H.E., our focus for this half term is 'celebrating difference'. We will consider how we are different and what makes us unique. We will discuss bullying and how we can make new friends.

Art & D.T.: In D.T we are focusing on mechanisms to create a moving animal. The children will learn the terms pivot, lever and linkage to design an animal that will move using a linkage mechanism.