



North Bridge House  
Nursery & Pre-Prep

# North Bridge House Pre-Prep School

## Year Two Spring Term Curriculum Letter January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Spring Term at NBH Pre-Prep School.

This curriculum letter will provide information about what Year Two will be learning over the course of the term ahead. There are many events planned that you can engage in over the coming weeks including FoNBH events, trips, themed weeks: Book week and Science week and the Year 1 Production. Please be sure to check the app for the spring term calendar (see 'info' section and 'calendar' section) in addition to the *Week Ahead* which is sent out each week.

Each Thursday, class teachers will publish an update on class news via the app so please do take a moment to read these. It is promising to be another action-packed term.

Headteacher  
NBH Pre-Prep

### Overview of the Spring Term in Year Two

Foundation subjects (Topic, Science, DT and RE) will be taught in blocks. This means that the children will be fully immersed in a subject for a one or two week period with the aim of promoting deeper learning. English and Maths lessons will take place daily.

**Science:** 1. Uses of everyday materials.  
2. Plants.

**Humanities:** 1. Island Life (Geography).  
2. Explorers (History and Geography).

**DT:** 1. Vehicles  
2. Shelters

**RE:** 1. Why do Christians celebrate Easter?

Additionally we have Book Week and Science Week to look forward to!

### Philosophy for Children: P4C

The children will be continuing with their weekly Philosophy for Children (P4C) lessons this term. Philosophy for Children offers a way to open up children's learning through enquiry and the exploration of ideas. Through these lessons, the children realise that their ideas, and those of others, have value. The children are supported in their thinking, reasoning and questioning, as well as the way they speak and listen to each other. P4C enquiries are based upon the 4Cs where children work on being caring, critical, creative and collaborative.



### English



Over this term the children will continue to have one weekly discrete drama session and four writing lessons.

Writing sessions are planned to develop the children's writing skills through a range of different genres of writing. This term the children will focus on: narratives, non-chronological reports, instructions and poetry. Some of the key texts that we will be studying in class are: The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark, Aliens love underpants, and books from the Katie Morag series.

Handwriting practice will take place throughout the week. We strongly encourage the children to use a joined cursive script in all pieces of written work. Spellings are sent home to learn and practice each Thursday. We will conduct a weekly spelling test and the results will be sent home so that you and the children know which spellings they must continue to practise. The children will be taught grammatical and rules, including: using suffixes, using subordination and coordination, identifying different types of sentence, using the correct tense, using apostrophes for contraction and possession and correctly punctuating sentences. The children will focus on developing their comprehension skills in reading through daily whole class comprehension sessions. The skills that we will look at are: prediction, inference, clarifying, summarizing, making connections, evaluating and questioning.

Phonics this term will focus on different spelling patterns. You will have the opportunity to view the children's writing through Pobble and also at the Parent & Child mornings.



## Reading at school and at home.



All children are assessed in reading half termly at school. This assessment comprises of a 1:1 session with a TA and assesses both fluency and comprehension. To assess each child's level accurately can take time.

Your child will read unseen texts which they are then required to:

- 1) Retell in as much detail as possible, using specific vocabulary found in the text
- 2) Read with an appropriate level of fluency and expression
- 3) Answer comprehension questions (literal and inferential) based on the text they have read

This assessment then provides a 'Reading Age' and directly corresponds to a colour band in the Big Cat reading scheme.

All children will read regularly at school but this will not always be recorded in your child's diary. Reading at school includes: reading texts/ extracts of texts in lessons, daily whole class comprehension sessions, small group reading sessions, 1:1 reading sessions with teaching assistants. Please ensure that you encourage your child to read **every day at home**.

**Your child will receive 3 Big Cat reading books to use at home each week.** If your child reaches the end of the assessment then they will choose any book and change it when they have finished.

### Guidance on reading at home:

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Child reads first book to a grown up at home (approx. 10 mins)	Child and grown up complete the activities at the back of the first book—	Child reads second book to a grown up at home (approx. 10 mins)	Child and grown up complete the activities at the back of the second book—	Child reads third book to a grown up at home (approx. 10 mins)	Child and grown up complete the activities at the back of the third book—	Child reads any text of their choosing. This could be a magazine or a book from the local library.
Child re-reads first book independently (approx. 10 mins) - <b>To develop fluency skills</b>	<b>To develop essential comprehension skills</b>	Child re-reads second book independently (approx. 10 mins) - <b>To develop fluency skills</b>	<b>To develop essential comprehension skills</b>	Child re-reads third book independently (approx. 10 mins) - <b>To develop fluency skills</b>	<b>To develop essential comprehension skills</b>	Oxfordowl have lots of free e-books. Your child could complete a response to reading activity eg write a book review, re-write the story, changing key events or characters.

## Computing in Year Two



The children will continue to receive one lesson per week, where they will learn discrete computing skills. This term the focus will be on



coding using 2Code on Purple Mash. 2Code uses fun ready-made guided lesson activities to turn children into competent coders. Once they've mastered the activities, children can hone and explore their skills in the free-code arenas.

Digital literacy will continue to be taught in other lessons to support other areas of the curriculum. These skills will be further developed through the use of our ipads and laptops in a cross-curricular way in other subject areas. Some examples are: creating fact files, publishing work and conducting research.

Each child will have log in details for Mathletics and Purplemash and these can be used at home (these should be stuck into your child's reading record book).

Each child will have log in details for Mathletics and Purplemash and these can be used at home (these can be found in your child's reading record book).



## Mathematics

Maths is taught every day in Year Two. This term there will be a continued focus on developing mathematical thinking and reasoning skills, both in their discrete weekly problem solving/investigation lesson and throughout the week in other lessons. The children will be taught to work systematically and to make connections between different areas in maths.

Each week the children will focus on a different strand of maths. Teachers will be working on securing the children's mathematical understanding by moving between concrete, pictorial and abstract understanding. We will encourage the children to work collaboratively to solve problems and to develop their mathematical language skills. We will teach the children to link their mathematical understanding to the world around them.

This term strands of maths taught will include: number and place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions, measures, geometry and statistics. The children will build on and deepen their understanding and application of these areas to mastery using a range of problems.

There will be daily practise of times tables and counting forwards/backwards and backwards in different multiples, starting from different numbers (e.g. counting in 5s starting from 2). This term the children will continue to consolidate 2s, 3s, 4s 5s and 10s.

There will continue to be daily practise of key skills. These will include: reading/writing numbers to and above 100 in numerals and words; partitioning two digit numbers in different ways; using the greater than/less than/equals sign to order and compare numbers/number sentences; recalling and using addition and subtraction facts fluently and deriving/using related facts; add three one-digit numbers mentally; odd and even numbers; understanding the inverse relationship of halving/doubling; recognising and using symbols for pounds (£) and pence (p); combining amounts to make a particular value; sorting and describe shapes according to their properties.

### **Key vocabulary your child will learn and use:**

Number, digit, value, order, tens, ones, units, larger, partition, smaller, number line, forwards, backwards, skip count, times tables, position, addition, subtraction, more, less, equals, number sentence, multiplication, division, commutative, array, grouping, sharing, odd, even, pounds, pence, combine, compare, value, sequence, hour, minute, measures, fractions, numerator, denominator, estimate, symmetry.



### **School Council**

The school has an active School Council which is comprised of two pupil representatives from each Pre-Prep class: A Lead and a Vice. The School Council reps meet each half term with Miss Winters to discuss school plans, events and fundraising ideas. After February 1/2 term the Vice rep will become the Lead for the rest of the academic year.

This term the children have chosen to support a charity called '[Farms for City Children](#)', founded by author Michael Morpurgo.

The charity offers urban children from all over the country a unique opportunity to live and work together for a week at a time on a real farm in the heart of the countryside.

Next term they will be supporting the work of [Mayhew, an animal re-homing centre](#).

The school council are planning some fun and creative fundraising events to raise money over the next two terms.

This will include a reading challenge in the spring term and a charity day in the summer term.



FARMS FOR CITY CHILDREN

**mayhew**  
for dogs, cats and communities

## Science



In Science this term, the Year Two children will cover the topics 'Uses of everyday materials' and 'Plants'.

In their study of materials the children will identify what they already know and what they want to find out. They will learn new vocabulary to describe materials and their properties and will investigate them by planning and conducting an experiment into waterproof materials. They will focus on key skills of planning and conducting a fair test, writing a method, and explaining results.

When studying plants, the children will identify what they already know and what they want to find out. They will be introduced to new vocabulary related to plants and then plan an investigation into the conditions plants need to thrive. This investigation will continue throughout the unit. They will identify, name and explain the function of each part of a plant. There will be a trip to Kew Gardens to support the children's learning.

## Class Assemblies

This term each class will be performing a special class assembly for parents where the children will be presenting their learning to you. We do hope that you will be able to come along and see what the children have been learning so far this year.

These take place in the Pre-Prep Lunch room, from 15.00– 15.20, on the following dates:

**Thursday 31st Jan - Elm Class**

**Thursday 7th Feb - Banyan Class**

**Thursday 14th Feb - Cedar Class**

**Thursday 7th March - Beech Class**

**Thursday 14th March - Katsura Class**

## Topics (Geography & History)



### Island Life

In this geography topic the children will start by identifying what they already know about Islands and what they want to find out. Their learning will then include knowing the physical and human features on an island. They will develop their digital literacy skills by researching an island of their choice. Finally they will design their own island. They will make a map of it and write a descriptive brochure persuading people to visit it.

### Explorers

In this history topic children will learn about explorers from the past and where they went. They will identify places on world maps that explorers went. While also identifying artefacts and exploring pictures from the past to find out more about the explorers' journeys. They will research the stories of explorers (inc. Christopher Columbus) and will compare how their lives are different from people in the past.

## PSHE+C

The Jigsaw PSHE scheme will be continue to be taught this term; bringing together PSHE education, emotional literacy, social skills and spiritual development in a lesson-a-week curriculum.

In the spring term, Year 2 will be focussing on Dreams and Goals. They will set themselves goals, think about how they will reach their goal and identify the difficulties they may face. They will discuss what it feels to achieve a goal and will finally celebrate their achievements. Additionally, the children will be thinking about and discussing how to work successfully and happily with others.



## Home Learning Tasks

Homework is set each Thursday and is collected on the following Tuesday. Homework should be completed in the Homework Book

**Reading**—Your child should read every day at home for at least 15 minutes. Please keep a record in your child's diary. Please support your child to develop their comprehension skills by initiating conversations using the sentence stems provided on the weekly homework.

**Spellings**—Your child will get 10 spellings per week to learn at home. Please encourage your child to practise them daily. They should try to include these spellings in a sentence, remembering to use a capital letter, full stop and a cursive script.

**Times tables**— Times tables will be practised daily in class. Each week there will be a focus on a different times table. Practise these at home (start with: 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s and 10s, then if the children are confident: 6s, 7s, 8s, 9s).

**English and maths tasks**—Your child will receive a range of English tasks and maths tasks to choose from each week. Your child should complete one English task and one maths task. We recommend spending half an hour on homework tasks per week.

**Holiday homework**— Your child will receive a range of optional homework activities to complete in the holidays. Some tasks will be set to prepare the children for their new topics and some tasks will be set to practise key skills.

## Music

In Spring Term year 2 children will continue to learn how to chant or sing a round in two parts and perform with an awareness of others. Children will learn to combine musical sounds with narrative and movement, perform a composed piece to a friendly audience as a member of a group or class and listen to their own compositions and use musical language to describe what happens in them.

This term we will also be working towards a fund-raising event for the charity Sign2sing. Year 2 will learn and perform a specially written song in sign language to raise money for deaf children in sub-Saharan Africa in need of teachers. All classes will be given the opportunity to learn ensemble playing skills through recorder or djembe drumming. The instruments will rotate across the Spring and Summer Terms and will provide the children with transferable skills, which will enable them to make informed choices about musical instruments to learn in the future, should they wish.

## French

This term, the children will revise instructions from the classroom. Then they will move on the topic 'Ourselves'. They will learn how to ask questions and give information about their: name, age, family and pets. They will then revise months of the year, learn about the seasons, and understand a basic weather forecast in French orally and in writing. The children will also revise the different sounds learnt and colours.

Please use Linguascope at home to revise what we are learning in class.

Username: nbhjs



Password: france1

## Art

During the Spring term, Year two children will continue exploring the elements of art. Year two will look at recycled art and artists Bruce Nauman and Gauguin for their topic 'Island Life'. In the latter part of the Spring term, Year 2 will make Sakura pictures, as well as looking at global art for their 'Explorers' topic and artist focus will be William Morris textiles and pattern.



## Swimming/ Gym/ Games

This term, in **gymnastics**, the children will be working on sequence work, including: travelling, jumping and landing, rocking and rolling, balancing and flight. The children will learn how to move in a safe and controlled manner and negotiate challenges in groups on the benches, balance beam, mats, ropes, ladder and small and large apparatus.

**Swimming** lessons this term, will endeavour to develop consistency of stroke techniques in front crawl and back-stroke.

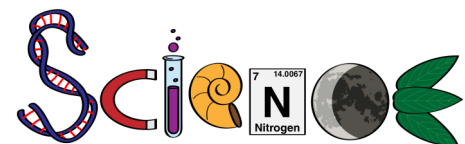
In games lessons will be teaching hockey and touch rugby, focussing on the following:

**Hockey:** Passing, Dribbling, Skills, Shooting, Mini Matches

**Touch Rugby:** Evading, Passing, Running with the ball and Mini matches.

## DT Days

This term the children will have two design and technology days, where they will learn the skills of designing, making, evaluating a product based on a brief that is given to them. The children will also develop their technical knowledge, for example exploring how to make a structure stronger, stiffer and more stable and also how to use wheels and axles in their products. On one day the children will explore vehicles and on the other day the children will explore shelters. Nearer the time you will be asked to send in recycling to use for these projects.



## Science Week 11th-15th March

Prior to the launch of Science Week, the Pre-Prep children will take part in a special Science day on the 1st February where they will explore *Sound in Science*.

The children will have the opportunity to work with children from across the school in their house groups (rather than classes), and will work with one teacher to learn about different scientific phenomenon through mini hands-on workshops.

Monday 11th March will see the launch of Science Week at the Pre-Prep.

# SOUND SCIENCE

During the week, the whole school will be taking part in a week-long science investigation.

In order to answer a scientific problem, each class will: research, plan, carry out and evaluate an investigation.

The children will then share their findings in an assembly the following week.



Please be sure to have selected the appropriate channels and filters on the app to ensure that you receive the regular updates and alerts.

For example, Year 1 parents should check the following:

Settings / Channels / Urgent Messages for Parents of Pre-Prep / Year 1 / Class name

Settings / Filters / Pre-Prep

The General Info section contains useful information including term dates.

In conjunction with the app provider we are developing the registration and privacy aspects plus improving the speed and accessibility for devices. Further updates on progress with this will follow.

## Book Week 4th—8th March

This term both the Nursery and Pre-Prep Schools will be following the theme of *Traditional Tales*.

Each class across the schools has chosen a different traditional tale to work on.

Your class teacher will soon tell you which tale has been selected for your class.

A copy of this tale will be sent home to you so that you can enjoy it together at home.

During Book Week itself, commencing 4th March, there will be a range of exciting activities, linked to our Traditional Tales theme, taking place including:

Drama & Role Play

Art- making story props, illustrations

Writing alternative versions of the class tale

Buddy reading across the schools

P4C exploring issues for example, 'Goldilocks, should she be arrested for burglary?'

Story Teller Visits

Author Visits

Dress Up Day— Thursday 7th March

Daunt Books Sale

Sponsored Fundraiser for Farms for City Children



**We are warmly encouraging parents from all classes to come in to school across this term to read or re-tell traditional tales from around the world.**

With 27+ languages spoken amongst the school community there is a real opportunity for the children to learn about other cultures through these stories.

If you would like to come in to school to read a story to your class please let your class teacher know.

**It would be wonderful if these sessions started before Book Week and continued afterwards.**

If you would rather send a copy of a traditional tale in for the teacher to read to the class then **please do**.



## Dates for your diaries....

The best way to keep up with school events and plan ahead is to use the 'Events' section on the NBH app. From here you can import dates straight into your own calendar

You can also download the calendar as a PDF in the 'Information' section.

Each week the 'Week Ahead' is uploaded to the app.

### Key Dates for Year 2 are:

- Thursday 31st Jan :Elm Class Assembly, 15:00 Lunch Room
- Thursday 7th Feb : Banyan Class Assembly 15:00 Lunch Room
- Tuesday 12th Feb: FoNBH 2nd hand uniform sale , Nursery Gym
- Thursday 14th Feb - Cedar Class Assembly 15:00 Lunch Room

### Half term: 18th Feb –22nd Feb

- Friday 1st March: FoNBH—Event for Pre Prep children— Bingo
- Monday 4th March—all week —Book Week
- Tuesday 5th March—Daunt Book Sale
- Tuesday 5th March—Parents' Evening
- Thursday 7th March - Beech Class Assembly 15:00 Lunch Room
- Friday 8th March—Cross Country Run, 14:00 Regents Park
- Monday 11th March—all week—Science Week
- Thursday 14th March - Katsura Class Assembly 15:00 Lunch Room
- Wednesday 20th March—FoNBH - Parent social event
- Tuesday 26th March— 8.30-9.00am—Parent and child morning in class
- Thursday 28th March— 8.30-9.00am—Parent and child morning in class
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April - Kew Gardens trip - Beech and Banyans
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April - Kew Gardens trip - for Elm, Cedar and Katsura
- Friday 5th April—11.45am—End of term.
- Friday 5th April—11.45am—End of term, non-uniform day.

Start of next term: Thursday 25th April 2019

## School Snacks

### We are a Nut and Seed Free School.

There are children in the school who have severe and life-threatening allergies to nuts and seeds.

**Please do not send any products into school that may contain nuts or seeds.**

**The school provides the following snacks daily:** Fresh Fruit / Raw vegetables, Rice Cakes, Milk (optional, chargeable).

**Parents may supplement this with the following:** Fresh Fruit, Raw Vegetables, Cheese, Yoghurt



## Pre-Prep Café

Every morning from 08:15 the Pre-Prep Café is open in the Lunch Room serving hot drinks and pastries.



### Use of the Pre-Prep playground after school

The Pre-Prep playground is open for parents and children to use until 17:00 each day.

Please note that between point of dismissal from class to 17:00 the children remain your responsibility and as such must be supervised at all times.

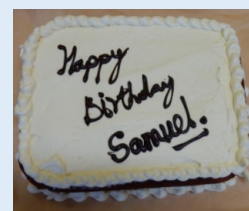
**Please do not allow the children to enter the chicken enclosure and please make sure that the playground is left clean and tidy, with toys neatly stored away before you leave.**

## Celebration Cakes

We like to celebrate special events and Birthdays in school.

If you would like to provide a cake for your child to share with their friends please ensure that it is **shop-bought and clearly shows that it is Nut-Free.**

Our wonderful catering team are able to create a range of delicious celebration cakes to order which are nut and seed free (gluten free options also available).



To place an order for a bespoke cake please speak to Caroline who will provide you with an order form

 @NBHSchool



[www.northbridgehouse.com](http://www.northbridgehouse.com)

 [northbridgehouseschool](https://www.facebook.com/northbridgehouseschool)