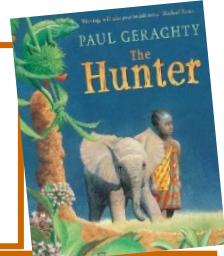


Curriculum Newsletter

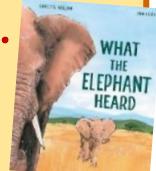
Year 2 – Spring 2026

Key Texts – ‘The Hunter’ by Paul Geraghty and ‘What the Elephant Heard’ by Charlotte Guillian

The children will be taken on an exciting African adventure by a girl called Jamina! Her passion for elephants leads the children to learn about the importance of conservation and the damaging effect that humans are having on the natural savannah habitat. They will learn songs, chants and play unique African instruments to embrace the vibrant lifestyle and culture. Once equipped with enough scientific and geographical knowledge, they will be going out on safari and learning all about animals that live on the continent ‘Africa’.



Our learning journey this term is called ‘An African Adventure’.



We are geographers

Geography knowledge and skills will include:

- Name and locate the world’s seven continents and five oceans using atlases, globes, Google Earth and large floor maps.
- Draw information from a map and compare two contrasting areas of land using a bird’s eye view/aerial map.
- Compare and contrast a small area of the U.K with a contrasting non-European country using geographical vocabulary.
- Identify seasonal and daily weather changes in the U.K and the location of hot/cold areas of the world.
- Discuss the human and physical features of our local area and ‘Kenya’, a non –European country.



We are scientists

Science knowledge and skills will include:

- Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals and use and understand the vocabulary – ‘carnivore, herbivore and omnivore’.
- Notice that animals including humans grow into adults.
- Understand the basic needs of animals for survival.
- Identify that most living things live in habitats which they are suited to.
- Use the idea of simple food chains, identify and name different sources of food.
- Think about how to collect evidence and use first-hand experience and simple information sources to answer questions.



We are historians.

History knowledge and skills will include:

- Explore simple changes within living memory in pupils’ own lives and the way of life of their family or others around them (African cultures).

English

Grammar

- Continue to use sentence punctuation already taught correctly and begin to use question marks and commas in a list.
- Begin to use suffixes such as -ly, -ness, -ful or -ing and apply spelling rules where the root word changes.
- Spell words correctly using knowledge of alternative phonemes for accurate spelling.
- To read and edit work to check for errors in spelling, punctuation, and grammar.
- To use present and past tense consistently.

Writing

- Begin to make simple edits when re-reading sentences.
- Write descriptively about personal experiences and those of others.
- Write a narrative piece based upon personal experiences thinking about beginning, middle and end.
- Use labels and sub-headings to create a simple non-chronological report about elephants.

Maths

- Counting in steps of 2, 3 and 5 starting from 0 and tens from any number.
- Order numbers up to 100 including solving missing number problems.
- Recognise, read, write numbers up to 100 as numerals and write as words.
- Add or subtract 2-digit numbers using partitioning method and equipment where needed.
- Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers.
- Order fractions on a number line and begin to add simple fractions.
- Solve simple one and two step problems including doubling, halving, and sharing.

Use objects at home to practically count in steps of 2, 5, and 10 and also add and subtract numbers to 100.

PSHE/RSE

We will be discussing ways to build confidence and resilience and plan how we can overcome obstacles that may get in the way.

Computing – Knowledge and Skills

We will use a range of simple tools in a publishing package to create our own poster. We will explore Africa using Google Earth and use 'Kiddle' to research elephants

Music – Knowledge and Skills

We will explore African instruments and compare them to instruments we already know of. We will listen and respond to African music and use instruments to create different sounds. We will also learn traditional African call and response chants.

Physical Education – Knowledge and skills

Ball games – to master basic movements and develop balance, agility and co-ordination. Dance – we will move imaginatively to create patterns of movements and perform African dances. PE day – Tuesday and Thursday

Art – Knowledge and skills

We will research a variety of African art techniques such as Kitenge and Ankara fabric printing. Using clay, we will create our own African hut and we continue to experiment with our painting and skills when producing images of African animals.

DT – Knowledge and skills

We will be designing and making a purposeful object. We will create simple drawings with labels, use joining techniques to assemble our final product and finally, evaluate it.

Rights Respecting Schools

Article 14 – You have a right to your own beliefs.
 Article 12 – You have the right to your own opinion.
 Article 24 – I have the right to food and clean water.
 Article 27 – The right to be safe.

RE – Knowledge and skills

We will continue to explore Christianity, its key celebrations and stories in comparison to other religions. Learn about the life and work of people who have been motivated or inspired by their faith.

- Nelson Mandela
- Desmond Tutu



Supporting learning at home

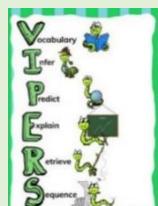
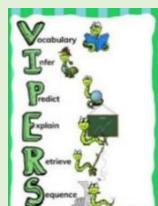
Your child will be set phonics/spelling or maths homework on a Thursday, this should be returned by the following Thursday. Your child may also be given small additional tasks for areas identified as needing support.

Reading

Reading is the **KEY** to learning

Children are strongly encouraged to read some of their home reading book **every night** and change on the set days. They have the opportunity to change their reading book on a **Monday and Thursday**. This should be recorded in their reading record book as should any additional reading undertaken at home. It is important to take time to discuss the book and ensure that your child has a good understanding of the text as well as being able to decode the words and read with increasing fluency. Re-reading sections of the book or the whole book again will allow them to increase their fluency and confidence.

During reading lessons, we will be exploring our reading '**VIPERS**' which support the children in developing their wider reading skills. It is also imperative that you read regularly to your child and share other stories and books at home to develop their love of reading and extend their vocabulary knowledge. Check in the back inside cover of the home reader, as usually Big Cat books have some activity ideas relating to the book that you can choose to complete and send in to school.



To support your child, as they progress in our Supersonic Phonics/Spelling programme, they will receive newsletters outlining the sounds and spelling rules they have been learning and the next group they will be focusing on. Please reinforce your child's understanding of these sounds or spelling rules by practising reading and writing the words shown. Any practising may be brought into school and celebrated with their class.

Key Dates

Thursday 6th March - World Book Day
 Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th March - Parents Evening
 Friday 13th March - Mother's Day Celebration (time TBC)
 Friday 20th March - Red Nose Day
 Friday 20th March - Year 2 Assembly, 9am, KS2 hall – celebrating our African Adventure Learning Journey!
 Friday 27th March – Easter Bonnet Parade

