



English

Throughout our learning experience the children will be specifically exploring themes related to the school's values of Creativity and Challenge. They will be introduced to a collection of stories by James Mayhew whose main character is Katie, and will be discovering Katie's favourite holiday activity; venturing with her into the art gallery and entering some of the most famous paintings in the world. English lessons will have a grammar focus on sentence construction and form the basis from which to move forward in Year 2.

Art

As part of their learning about Vincent Van Gogh, the children will focus on his painting; *The Sunflowers*. Over time, they will develop the skills of observational drawing, using real sunflowers to aid their understanding. To further improve their skills, they will learn how to critically evaluate their work so they can refine specific detail, and ultimately produce a piece of artwork that will sit within the picture frame created on Hook Day. The work of designer Orla Kiely will be the inspiration for the decoration of the frame.

Science

In Science, the children will have the opportunity to grow and observe their own plants, learning about how seeds germinate. The children will work scientifically to discover and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and be healthy. We will also look at the different parts of a plant and the roles that they have, conducting a range of practical experiments.

Maths

Maths this half-term will focus on place value. The children will be counting on and back from any number, as well as learning to write and represent numbers up to 100. We will also be looking at the number of tens and ones that make up a number and partitioning it in different ways, as two parts of a whole. Later this term, the children will revisit number bonds and rehearse their use of objects and pictorial representations to support their understanding of addition and subtraction. As they become more fluent in this, they will solve problems using their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods.

Design and Technology

For the first few weeks of the term, the children will explore a range of picture frames to help them understand the purpose of them so that, with the use of design criteria, they can create their own frame from wood. Their painting of sunflowers will take pride of place inside this picture frame.





ON DISPLAY



Challenge:

The challenge for this term will be to create a picture frame for a piece of artwork the children will be working on across the term. This will be based upon the famous painting by Vincent Van Gogh, *The Sunflowers*.

Creativity:

The children will be creating their own version of *The Sunflowers* which will go into the frame they are making, and be on view at the Year 2 art gallery. There will be other arty creations to share around the theme of sunflowers.

Rationale: This learning experience will enable the children to develop their understanding of art, in particular some of the work of Vincent Van Gogh. They will be introduced to the work of other artists through the fun and imaginative series of children's books by James Mayhew. Orla Kiely, the Irish designer, will be studied so that the children can create a piece of work in her style to decorate their completed picture frame.

Start Date: Monday 7th September 2026

End Date: Friday 23rd October 2026

Hook: On Wednesday 16th September, the children will be taking part in a DT/art day, which will challenge their skills of measurement as they make their frames that will enhance their finished artwork. There will be opportunity to explore the style of Orla Kiely alongside the frame making.

Outcome: In the final week of term, we hope to host a gallery in the school hall to show case all of the fantastic learning this half-term. There will be the opportunity to see the children's art, as well as share a James Mayhew story with your child.

Diary date: Wednesday 21st October, 2:45pm

Science:

The children will be working scientifically to identify and name a variety of plants. They will use a range of equipment to observe and describe how seeds grow into mature and healthy plants.

Take home task:

Research the works of an artist and present the information as a poster with facts. It could be Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso or your own choice!

Please bring in your completed task by the Monday 12th October 2026

How you can support your child at home:

- Reading every day - a vital part of our partnership! Please make sure you sign their Reading Record.
- Talk about what they are learning at school
- Helping them to learn their x2, x5, x10 multiplication facts
- Completing weekly Maths homework
- Working together to complete half-termly take home tasks