

Could Rhinos Ever Live in the Arctic?

Year 2 – 2025/2026

Autumn 1 and 2

Throughout the Autumn term, Year 2 will be investigating the question: Could rhinos ever live in the Arctic? They will be doing this through a variety of different topic based subjects such as Geography, Science and History as well as taking part in a trip to Marwell Zoo!

Geography Year 2 will be learning about The Arctic, Antarctic and Africa. They will develop the skill of **investigating places and patterns** by a range of activities including identifying the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator as well as the North and South poles to identifying continents and oceans using world maps, atlases and globes. They will then use these skills to describe and compare the physical and human features of these regions and focus on developing the skill of **communicating geographically**.

History Year 2 will begin to **build an overview of world history** by studying significant individuals from the past (Scott of the Antarctic and Ernest Shackleton). They will develop their **understanding of chronology** by placing events in order on a timeline and using dates where appropriate.

Science Year 2 will be working on developing their **understanding of animals and humans** by identifying the different classes of animals (e.g. mammals) and classifying, describing and comparing these. Year 2 will also **investigate living things**, looking at the idea of a simple food chain and giving reasons as to why an animal is suited to its environment.

Art Year 2 will be working on **mastering techniques** during this topic. They will develop their pencil control and sketching skills when sketching their own Arctic, Antarctic and African animals, by drawing lines of different sizes and thicknesses. They will add pattern and texture to an African style painting by adding dots and lines. They will also be creating an animal made out of clay. Year 2 will also be exploring colour and creating their own colour wheels.

Computing Year 2 will develop their ability to **communicate** and use a range of applications in order to share their ideas and work. They will also be developing their understanding of how technology can **connect** them to the wider world and they will continue to develop their understanding of online risks and the age rules for sites.

RE Year 2 will be developing their **understanding of beliefs and teachings** by learning about some of the main celebrations of a religion (Harvest, Diwali and Advent). They will develop an **understanding of how beliefs are conveyed** by studying the use of candlelight as a symbol.

Gymnastics Year 2 will be **developing their practical skills** during this topic. They will be moving with an increased level of control and co-ordination and be able to link two or more actions to perform a sequence. They will also be developing their understanding of how to climb safely onto equipment and jump in a variety of ways with a safe landing. Children will also develop an understanding of the importance of exercise for humans.

Year 2 – Term/Key Dates

Autumn 1 – Thursday 4th September to Friday 24th October

Wednesday 3rd September: INSET Day

Behaviour, Letters & Numbers Workshop for Parents: Tuesday 15th October 9.00-9.45am

Harvest Festival: Thursday 16th October 2.00pm, St John's Church- **Parents invited**

Monday 20th October: Marwell Zoo Trip

Autumn 2 – Monday 3rd November to Friday 19th December

Monday 3rd November: INSET Day

Parents' Evenings: Tuesday 4th November & Wednesday 5th November 3.30-5.30pm

Assembly for Year 2 Parents – Presented by Year 3 children in the Junior School hall 2.45pm

Flu Immunisations: Wednesday 19th November

SEND Parents' Evenings: Wednesday 26th November 3.30-5.30pm

Welcome Winter Jumper Day £1 : Monday 1st December

Calendar Making Activity: Friday 5th December 9.00-9.40am – **Parents invited**

End of Topic Museum: Tuesday 9th December 9.30-10.00am – **Parents invited**

Year 2 Christmas Nativity: Tuesday 16th December 2.00pm StJohn's Church– **Parents invited**

Children's Christmas Lunch & Wear Your Winter Jumper: Friday 19th December

WFA Magic Show & Last Day of School: Friday 19th December

Christmas Songs in back playground : Friday 19th December 3.00pm – **Parents invited**

BACK TO SCHOOL: 8.40am Monday 5th January 2026

