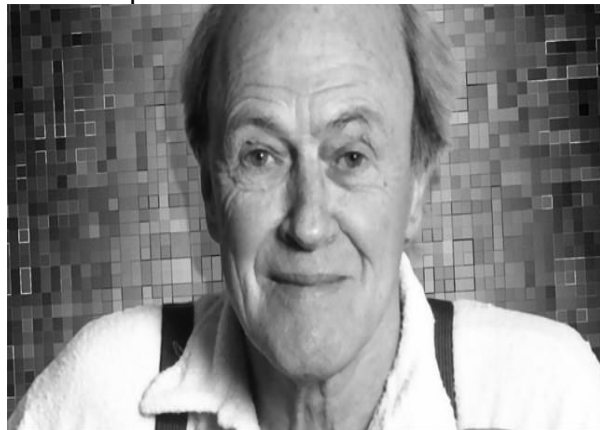




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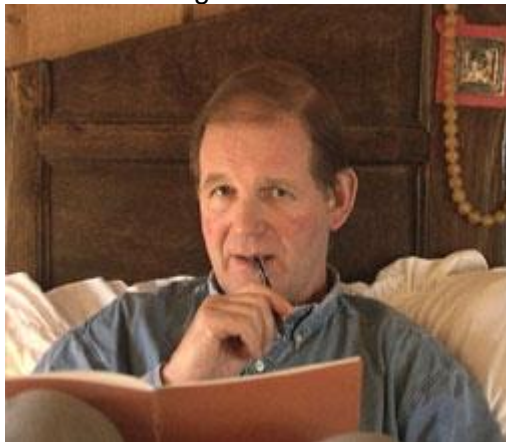
Dahl

Roald Dahl (13 September 1916 – 23 November 1990) was a British novelist, short story writer, poet, screenwriter, and fighter pilot. His books have sold more than 250 million copies worldwide.



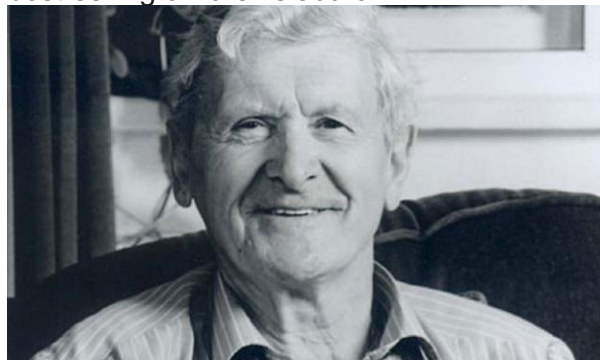
Morpurgo

Michael Morpurgo is a British writer and author of over one hundred books, mostly for children, many of which have given many prizes and awards. His most recent book is entitled 'An Eagle in the Snow'.



King-Smith

Dick King-Smith was a soldier, a farmer, a family man, a primary school teacher and most memorably to his millions of fans, a best-selling children's author.

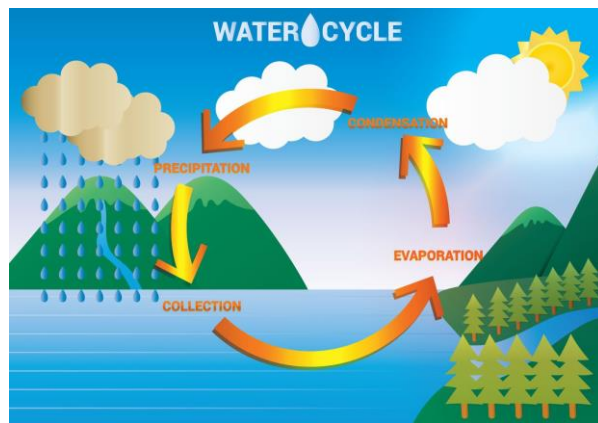


Working as a lower key stage 2 team

Over the year, we will be working as a team to learn about topics that tie in with the objectives set out in the National Curriculum. We will share experiences such as visitors, trips and special events. As a staff, we are very excited about having the chance to work together to provide the best possible experience for the children in Year 3 and 4.

In order for us to be able to work together effectively, Dahl and King-Smith class will be taught French and music by Mrs Rhodes and PE by Plymouth Albion (in the MUGA) on a Wednesday afternoon, while Mrs Duthie will cover French, music and PE in Morpurgo class.

Topics for the Autumn term






In this first half term, our topic is 'Water.' In this topic we will look at the water cycle and states of matter for our geography and science focus. In English, we will be writing warning tales based on our example text 'The Canal'. We will be encouraging lots of use of dictionaries to develop children's ability to check meaning within their reading. We will be looking at 'Why the Whales Came' by Michael Morpurgo in our reading lessons. Mathematics will cover investigating number systems, pattern sniffing and solving calculation problems. We are excited for our trip to the National Marine Aquarium where we will be challenged in STEM activities: science, technology, engineering and maths. In art we will be looking at the work of Monet as it links well with our water topic. Our RE work will start with Creation and be followed by Prayers, Saints and Feasts.



In the second half term in Autumn, our topic will be 'The Railway'. As this topic is history focused, we will look at the development of the railways and we are hoping to visit the Buckfast Steam Railway, which we are sure will not only be enjoyable for the children but extremely beneficial to their understanding in this topic. In English, we will be writing recounts of our trip, writing journey tales and our reading will focus on asking questions to improve understanding of texts with increasing complexity. For our Mathematics learning, our lessons are based around generalising arithmetic, exploring shape and using reasoning when handling measures. Science is focused on electricity and also links to our design technology learning about battery operated lights. In computing we will design algorithms to create quizzes about railways. During this half term, our RE will focus on Sacraments, Advent and Christmas.







Key vocabulary for Autumn 1 - Water

States of matter	Solids, liquids and gases are called the three states of matter.
 Solids	Solids stay in one place and can be held. Solids keep their shape. They do not flow like liquids. Solids always take up the same amount of space. They do not spread out like gases.
 Liquids	Liquids can flow or be poured easily. They are not easy to hold. Even when liquids change their shape, they always take up the same amount of space. Their volume stays the same.
 Gas	Gases are often invisible. Gases do not keep their shape or always take up the same amount of space. They spread out and change their shape and volume to fill up whatever container they are in.
Water cycle	Water can be seen as a liquid, a solid (ice), or a gas (water vapour) and moves around the environment in a process known as the water cycle.
Temperature	How hot or cold something is, measured using a thermometer in degrees.
Evaporation	A process where liquids change to a gas or vapour.
Condensation	A process where gas changes to a liquid.
Precipitation	The release of water from the sky, it can be liquid or solid, for example, rain, sleet, hail and snow.
Freezing	A process where liquids change to solids when they become very cold.
Boiling	A process where liquids change to gases when they become very hot.

Key vocabulary for Autumn 2 - The Railway



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Locomotives	A wheeled vehicle consisting of an engine that moves itself to draw trains along railway tracks.
 Railway network	A system of railway lines.
Routes	A road or path of travel from one place to another.
 Steam train	A locomotive powered by steam.
Railway line/track	A route between two points on a railway.
Carriage	A vehicle with wheels that is covered or enclosed and is used for carrying people.
Electricity 	A form of energy that can be carried by wires and is used for heating and lighting, and to provide power for machines.
 Battery	A source of electrical power.
Circuit	A complete and closed path that electricity can flow through.

Things to remember to bring into school:

Home learning

Reading folder

PE kit

Waterproof coat

Water bottle

Lunch (or ensure that your ParentPay account is topped up)



School website

On our school website each class has their own selection of webpages. There are class



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galleries, home learning pages, learning resources and downloadable copies of letters that have been sent home.

There are also some lovely subject area zones under the learning tab at the top of the webpage.

Contacting our child's teacher

Please feel free to always talk to us at the end of the day when you pick up your child. Sometimes, we appreciate that this may be difficult so please feel free to email us:

Miss Bailey: bbailey@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk

Miss Cairns: acairns@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk

Miss Mooney: smooney@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk

Please feel welcome to come and see your child's new classroom and talk to the class teacher at our **Lower Key Stage 2 Meet The Teacher event on Tuesday 12th September at 3.30pm.**

Ways to help at home



Reading - Time spent listening to your child reading is so valuable. It not only benefits them in terms of you helping them with comprehension, fluency and word recognition, but it also teaches them that reading is something that you can enjoy with others.



Ways a Parent Can Help with **READING**

1

Let your child see you reading!

Have magazines and books in your home.

2

Help your child find appropriate word & reading games on the computer.

Keep a dictionary on hand. Help your child look up new words they read or hear.

3

Read mysteries with your child and try to figure out the clues together.

4

Movie version coming out?

Read the book together first, then talk about which you each liked better.

5

Set aside a time and place for your child to read -

like a comfy chair and a reading light in a quiet place

6

Visit your public library regularly.

Look for and read together the books that were your favorites when you were a kid.

7

Encourage your child to write -

letters, thank you notes, emails, journals, lists, stories about their own trips, events, and daily life

8

Ask your child questions about what he or she is reading, such as:

- What is the story about?
- Who are the important characters in the story?
- Where does the story take place?
- Why do you think the character made that choice?
- Why did that happen?
- How did you know about...?
- Would you recommend this book to your friends?

9

Ask your child to draw a comic strip about what happens in the story.

Provide word searches, crossword and other word games and puzzles, or help your child make his/her own



Share with your child about what you're reading... and encourage your child to do the same

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Maths - play games involving dice and encourage children to count and look for patterns, encourage children to show you methods they have been learning in school, ask children to help you measure things at home (could be for a recipe or using a tape measure etc.) and ask them LOTS of questions:

Which is bigger? Which is smaller? Which do you think weighs more? How many minutes until...? What time is it? I have 'x' amount of money. Can I buy 'this' and 'that'? What shapes can you see? How do you know it is that shape? Why is 3 x 4 more than 2 x 4? Can you help



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me measure this? What did you learn in school today? Can you show me which method you used? How does it work?