

Year 1

Curriculum Newsletter



BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS STRAIGHT FROM THE CLASSROOM



KEY DATES

End of term 3 –
Friday 11th
February

Start of term 4 –
Monday 21st
February

Parent-Teacher Conferences –
Thursday 17th and Tuesday 22nd
March

Ancient History

In history, we learn about real people and real events from the past. This half-term we will continue to learn about Ancient Egypt. We will be focusing on the kings of Egypt, temples, gods and goddesses, the Great Pyramids, tombs and mummies.

Key Words: Ancient, Egyptians, kings, pharaohs, chariot, decorated, soldiers, god, goddess, temple, stone, worship, statue, jackal, pyramids, tombs, mummy.

English & Grammar

Reading: We will carry on securing and expanding the children's phonetic knowledge (i.e. letter sound correspondence) using dots and dashes. We will be encouraging the children's blending of these sounds in order to read fluidly. Please continue to read with your child daily and ask questions about the story. For example:

Before: What do you predict will happen in the story? Why?

During: How do you think the character is feeling? Why? What do you think will happen next? **After:** Where was the story set? Which character was your favourite? Why? Why did the author choose to use particular words? (E.g. When the character 'frowned', what was the author trying to tell us?)

Handwriting: We will continue to focus on how to correctly form letters in pre-cursive script, extending to joins within words.

Spelling: For homework, we will continue to practise reading and spelling words we can sound out phonetically. Additionally, common exception words, known as 'red words' in the Read Write Inc. programme will still be included in their homework. Please make a special effort to learn these non-phonetic words, as some children are not demonstrating an ability to spell these week-on-week.

Writing: After completing our 'Stories with Familiar Settings' unit, we will be moving onto 'Stories from Other Cultures', looking at a variety of texts predominantly set in the continent of Africa. Children will continue to write sentences by:

- describing to a partner/teacher what they are going to write about and composing a sentence orally before writing
- segmenting words accurately to spell
- leaving finger spaces between words
- punctuating sentences using a capital letter and a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark
- using a capital letter for names, famous landmarks, days of the week and months (i.e. proper nouns)
- making high-level vocabulary choices (e.g. adjectives and verbs)
- sequencing sentences to form short recounts and procedural texts, using 'time connectives', such as firstly, next, then, after that, suddenly, etc.
- re-reading what they have written to check that it makes sense

It is expected that children will apply these writing strategies across curriculum subjects.

Speaking and Listening: We will encourage the children to speak in full sentences, and 'track' a speaker with their eyes.

Maths

This term, we will be learning the teen numbers and 20. We will explore these numbers using manipulatives, such as sets of objects, bead strings, number lines and double ten frames.

In this unit, the lessons will focus on:

- One more and one less than a given number within 20
- Ordering three or more numbers
- Odd and even numbers
- Double and halves to 20
- Identifying and continuing number patterns

We will also be learning addition and subtraction within 20. Interlocking cubes, ten frames, number lines, number tracks and part-whole models will be used to support understanding. The children will also use their own pictorial representations to make sense of the mathematical situations they encounter.

In this unit, the lessons will focus on:

- Counting on to add small amounts
- Counting back to subtract small amounts
- Using number bonds/known facts to add and subtract
- Using the 'Make ten' strategy to add and subtract
- Applying strategies and experimenting with modelling

Activities to do at home:

- Practise Learn Its daily for 5 minutes. Ideas to help with this are on our website.
- Discuss everyday maths with your child, e.g. What number is the bus? What is one more than that? One less? How many eggs are there in the fridge? What if I add four more eggs?
- Pay for things using coins at the shop, asking your child to help you count the money.

Religious Education

This term, we will be discussing through the below questions.

- What is Christianity?
- What do Christians believe about God?
- What are the Christian sacred texts?
- What is a church?

Science & Geography

In science, we will be learning properties and uses of different materials.

In geography we will be studying the four seasons and describing the different weathers you might see in them uses our senses.

PSHE

This term, we will be discussing how to be the best we can be. We will also be speaking through:

- What makes us special
- We work hard to achieve the things we want
- Perseverance/persistence and hard work

PE

This term, we will be introducing gymnastics. We will be looking at travelling movements, climbing, jumping and landing. We will also be using the mats to work on our gross motor skills.

Music

This term, we will continue to develop our understanding of pitch, pulse and rhythm with fun games and exercises while also learning to sing songs of roughly ABRSM Grade 2 difficulty. This term we will also be learning about instruments of the orchestra and listening analytically to pieces of music written for orchestra.

Art

During our spring terms in art, we will further develop our knowledge from last term with particular focus on the colour wheel and start to acquire knowledge of the elements in art. In term one, we will learn about cave art and using different types of lines. In term two, we will focus on reading art and using different mediums to express ourselves.