



Spring Term 1

Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! We truly value your ongoing support with ILOs, reading, and spellings. Below, you will find an outline of the curriculum for Spring Term 1.

Phonics

The children will be continuing their Phonics Shed journey through Chapter 4, as shown below, and continuing to recap the sounds they have already learnt.



English

This term, children will be working on writing instructions, a letter, and a non-chronological report. Through these activities, children will learn about the unique features of each type of text.

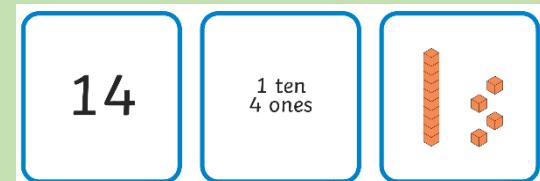
Science

Our science curriculum will include an exciting unit on **animals, including humans**. The children will learn to identify and name a variety of common animals, including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. They will also explore the different diets of these animals, classifying them as carnivores, herbivores, or omnivores. Additionally, the children will describe and compare the structure of these animals, noting features such as fur, feathers, scales, and body parts. Through hands-on activities and observations, the children will develop their skills in identifying, classifying, and comparing living things.



Maths

In Maths, we will explore numbers to 20 this term and the children will be introduced to the vocabulary of tens and ones (the term 'units' is no longer used). Children will learn to partition a number into tens and ones (as shown below) and also to identify a number based on a picture of tens and ones manipulatives. Lots of practical work will take place so that children experience using base ten apparatus when working with two-digit numbers. In this unit, the children will also learn to find and make number bonds to 20, doubles, near doubles, the method of finding the difference and related facts.



Geography

Children will focus on understanding geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography in a small area of the United Kingdom. The children will explore various aspects of this area, comparing it with other regions to gain a deeper understanding of how geography shapes our environment and communities. Additionally, they will learn to identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom, enhancing their awareness of how weather affects our daily lives. The curriculum will also introduce the concept of hot and cold areas around the world, helping children to recognise and locate these regions on a map. Furthermore, the children will learn about the seven continents and five oceans, broadening their knowledge of the world's geography.



PE

This term, children will be exploring dance as a way to move creatively and express ideas. They will learn to copy and create simple movements, respond to music, and work both individually and in small groups to perform short sequences. Through fun themes such as animals, weather, and stories, pupils will develop balance, coordination, and spatial awareness while building confidence. By the end of the unit, they will be able to perform a short dance with a clear beginning and end, and talk about what they enjoyed in their performance.

DT

In DT this term, the children will explore mechanisms, focusing on sliders and levers. They'll start by researching how these mechanisms work, then follow a design brief to create their own projects. After designing and building their pieces, they'll evaluate their work to see how well it meets the brief. This hands-on experience will help them understand the principles of design and technology in a fun and practical way.

Music

Our theme for this Half Term is: What's the Weather Out There? Over the course of this unit Year 1 pupils will be exploring a variety of new songs including: Marching in the Snow, Wet, Wet, Wet, I Need a Brolly and many more. Pupils will continue to focus on finding the musical heartbeat of the music, this time whilst using handheld percussion to demonstrate this musical pulse. They will start to develop their understanding to demonstrate different dynamics using their voices and handheld percussion.



RE

In our next RE topic, we will be learning about Islam. The children will discover that many Muslims believe in one god (Allah) and that the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is considered a role model. They will hear stories from the Qur'an that highlights how he showed respect to nature. Additionally, the children will learn that Islam teaches humans to be caretakers (stewards/Khalifahs) of the planet and understand that many Muslims show respect to God by caring for the world.



PSHE

In our next topic, "Living in the Wider World," the children will learn why rules and boundaries are important and how they help keep us safe. They'll also explore the internet's role, looking at both its positive and negative sides. This will help them understand how to use the internet responsibly and stay safe online.

Computing

The children will be learning about programmable toys. They will explore how to give simple instructions to make the toys move and perform tasks. This hands-on experience will help them understand basic programming concepts. By the end of the unit, they'll be able to create their own sequences of instructions and see their ideas come to life through the programmable toys, setting a solid foundation to the world of coding and problem-solving.



Seesaw

Seesaw is an app we use to track your child's learning. Unlike in EYFS, in KS1 children will log in individually and complete set 'assignments' and you will be able to see their work, marking, like and make a comment for your child to see your engagement.



Home Learning

- Read at home for 15-20 minutes every day.
- Practise spellings (using Ed Shed and written method).
- Independent Learning Opportunities.

Dates for diaries:

05.01.26	School reopens
29.01.26	Stay and Learn Y1 - phonics based
06.02.26	Number Day non-uniform
13.02.26	Valentines Disco
14.02.26	Finish for half term 3:15pm