Year 1 - Autumn 1 Curriculum Newsletter 2026

Class teacher: Miss Hillon

TA: Miss Beattie

Reading

Whole class books – The Tiger who came to tea by Judith Kerr.

Tigers (non-fiction text)

Poetry: Tea with Aunty Mabel by Jean Willis.

The children will also enjoy various stories read to them by an adult each afternoon.

Your child will receive a new Little Wandle reading book every Monday, ready to begin our group reading sessions. Please try to read with your child most nights at home to give them extra practice for fluency.
In class, we will be reading on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
Phonics takes place every day and this term the children will review Phase 3 and 4 sounds, before moving on to learning some new Phase 5 sounds before the half term break.

Writing

This half term our writing will be linked to our whole class books: 'The Tiger who came to Tea' and the non-fiction text 'Tigers'. The genres of writing will include:

- Character descriptions
- Lists
- Instructions
- An invitation
- A Fact File

We will be working hard to improve our use of capital letters, full stops, and finger spaces, along with beginning to learn about further punctuation.

The children will also have a daily phonics session every morning, which includes a writing element.

Maths

This half term we will be building on prior maths knowledge learnt in Reception and applying those skills, as well as learning new mathematical skills.
We will be focusing on:

- Place Value within 10
- Addition and Subtraction within 10
- Shape

The children will also be learning how to apply the skills they have learnt to problem solving and applying problems.

PE

This half term the children will be focusing on Multiskills and Fitness.
PE is every Monday and Friday.

Children will need PE kits both days which consists of:

- White t-shirt
- Grey jumper
- Black shorts or joggers
- Trainers

Science

This term we will be learning the topic 'sensitive bodies'.
The children will explore:

- The parts of a human body.
- Drawing and labelling body parts.
- Senses and the body part used for each one.
- Senses in action.
- Putting data into a table.

Geography

This half term we will be focusing on the topic 'What is it like here?'
The children will learn to:

- Locate features on an aerial photograph of the school and know the name of the country and village, town or city in which they live.
- Make a map of the classroom with four key features, using objects to represent the distance and direction of features in the classroom.
- Recognise features in the school grounds using a map.
- Explain how they feel about the school playground and find out how others feel by looking at the results of a survey.

ICT/Computing

In computing we will be focusing on 'Improving mouse skills. These lessons will explore how to:

- Use computers more purposefully.
- Log in and navigate around a computer.
- Drag, drop, click and control a cursor using a mouse.
- Use software tools to create art on the computer.

ART

This term in Art, our topic is all about exploring line and shape.
The children will:

- Identify that some shapes are organic.
- Connect lines to create shapes.
- Use and recognise different types of lines when drawing shapes.
- Identify basic shapes in everyday objects and artwork.
- Talk about what they like or dislike in a piece of artwork.
- Use shapes to draw a face.
- Use different pressures to make a colour lighter or darker.
- Choose lines and shapes inspired by Artist Brianna McCarthy's artwork.

Music

This half term our music topic is called 'keeping the pulse'.
The children will learn to:

- Clap the rhythm of their name in time to the pulse.
- Sway or tap in time to the pulse.
- Sing a rhythm in time with the pulse.
- Copy rhythms based on word patterns using an instrument.
- Keep the pulse while playing a rhythm on an instrument.
- Follow instructions during a performance.

Homework

Please try and read at home with your child every school night if you can. This will really help to build on the children's confidence, fluency and knowledge of the book. Children will also receive a book for pleasure each Friday and this is for grown-ups to read to their child for enjoyment. These books need to be returned at the end of the following week so that they can be swapped for a new one.

If you would like to follow up on our learning at home, you could:

- Chat about our local area and encourage your child to learn their home address.
- Chat about the 5 senses.
- Practice fastening shoe laces.

Dates for your diary:

*Friday 11th September: Year 1 Parents Meeting 8:45am or 2:40pm.
*Monday 14th September: Whole class mass in church at 10am, all welcome.
*Friday 25th September: Non uniform and Macmillan coffee morning.
*Monday 28th September: School photos.
*Monday 19th October: Nurses in to do flu nasal sprays.