



Class 1 Newsletter – Summer Term 2026

We would like to welcome you back to this summer term, which seems to have arrived very quickly. We are looking forward to a busy term but we are sure that the children will enjoy the activities which we have planned for them, as we intend to make the most of the fine spring and summer weather! If the sun ever does decide to shine, could you please make sure your child has a sun hat and a bottle of water, both clearly labelled with their name. The bottles will be returned each day for you to rinse and refill at home. When it becomes necessary, could you also ensure that you apply sun cream to your child's skin when sun is forecast as we spend lots of time outdoors and we are unable to apply the cream in school. If your child has very sensitive skin and you feel they may need more than one application of sun cream, please come and talk to us about how we can manage their needs. Should we be concerned about any child's skin being over-exposed to the sun, we will keep them in the shade.

Outlined below is a brief summary of the curriculum activities for this summer term.

Main Focus for Project i.e. subject & programme of study:	Create - Art
Enquiry Question:	Can nature be represented in Art?
Concepts:	Beauty, Change, Creativity
Connections i.e. links to other subjects:	Links to Science, plants, animals and habitats, looking after our environment, what plants and animals are in our environment RE/PSHE/RSE Looking after our world/growing in our world Music- Improvisation and Composition, -creativity, change and what we like/do not like.

Religious Education/personal and social development (EYFS & Y1)

During our RE lessons we will be exploring the following areas.

Branch 5: To the Ends of the Earth. The children will learn about the time before Jesus went back to Heaven, the story of Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit. This will then lead onto learning about the church community coming together and how we gather together at Church on Sundays to celebrate Mass.

Branch 6: Dialogue and encounter. The children will learn about the simple life of St Peter and St Paul, and we will invite someone in from the local parish to talk about their faith and why it matters to them to be a friend of Jesus. We will explore a range of pictures of Jesus from a non-European tradition. For the encounter element we will invite someone into the class from the local area or a school community member to talk about their local (faith) community and why it matters to them. They will learn about some of the religious and secular times that are part of British cultural life, for example, the importance of Diwali or St Georges day.

We will be continuing to develop the children's personal and social skills through a wide range of activities including collective worship, the PSHE/RSHE curriculum, circle time, stories, role play and turn taking games.

Expressive Arts and Design /Art (EYFS & Y1)

The key theme for this term is 'Create' and as such Art will be the subject we are studying in depth. We are going to learn about the work of two artists, George Seurat and Henri Matisse. We will be exploring how they got much of their inspiration from nature, which will link well to our topics on plants and animals. We will find out a bit about them and will then practise some skills used in their work with the aim of producing two pieces of artwork inspired by them. This will give us lots of opportunity to practise a wide range of skills, including collage, drawing, painting and mixing colours. We will display our work in the end of term gallery.

Phonics (Year 1)

We have now covered the majority of the phase five sounds in Phonics and the children are continuing to use their phonic decoding skills during guided reading and independent reading. We will continue to teach phonics each day to embed the new sounds, however more focus will now be placed on high frequency words and tricky words, both reading and spelling in preparation for Year 2.

Spellings will continue to be sent home on Friday and will be more focused on high frequency words in the coming weeks. The Year 1 children will be learning cursive handwriting this term, also in preparation for Year 2.

English (Year 1)

In the first half of the summer term we will be looking at Information texts linked to our topic on animals. This will allow Y1's the opportunity to learn the difference between fiction and non-fiction, and to identify the features of non-fiction texts, including contents pages, headings, labels, captions and glossaries. They will practice these skills in order to produce their own mini non-fiction book.

Later we will be focusing on a fiction text which we will use to explore friendship, resilience and problem solving, as well as creative writing and using our imagination.

The Year 1's will be working on a number of additional skills, including sentence writing skills, putting things in alphabetical order, using clauses to join sentences and writing longer pieces of writing. They will also be challenged to do a piece of work completely independently each week.

The main writing objectives in all pieces of written work are as follows:

Year 1

To say sentences out loud before writing them down, use capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. To write neatly with letters on the line and all letters formed correctly, and to hold a pencil correctly (tripod grip). To re-read what has been written to check that it makes sense, to use 'and' to join words and clauses to make sentences, and to use adjectives.

Maths (Year 1)

The maths objectives this term are as follows:

- Multiplication and division – counting in 2's, 5's and 10's, making equal groups, grouping and sharing, arrays doubles.
- Fractions – recognise half of a shape or quantity, find half of a shape or object, find half of a quantity. Recognise a quarter of a shape or quantity, find quarter of a shape or quantity, find a quarter of a quantity.
- Geometry – position and direction – describe turns, describe left and right, forwards and backwards, above and below and ordinal numbers.
- Place Value (within 100) – Count from 50 – 100, count in tens to 100, partition tens and ones, use a number line to 100, find 1 more and 1 less, compare numbers.
- Money – unitising, recognising coins, recognising notes, counting in coins.
- Time – Before and after, days of the week, months of the year, hours minutes and seconds, tell the time to the hour and half hour.

Maths homework will be sent home every Friday, and returned to school the following Friday. Homework should be marked at home at the time of completing the homework, so that your child can be proud of their achievements in the moment. We award a house point for completion of homework each week.

Communication and Language and Literacy (EYFS)

In the first half of the summer term we will be looking at Information texts linked to our topic on animals. Later we will be focusing on a fiction story all about friendship, problem solving and resilience. We will be continuing to build on the children's phonic skills so that they become confident in sounding out words when reading and writing. For the reception children particularly, it is now a good time to encourage them to write independently (not copy writing), for a range of purposes such as shopping lists, diary, labelling pictures etc. You may think that the words are unrecognisable but, if you look carefully, you will see that they are really thinking about what they are writing and using their knowledge of sounds. For instance, they may write 'bns' for bananas. As the child's knowledge develops, they will increase the number of letters used and will become more independent in their writing skills.

Could I also please remind you that it is vital that your child reads every day at home, as young children require a great deal of practise to become confident readers. This does not mean they need to read their school reading book every day, any book or comic that interests them is just as valuable. The children will continue to be tested on their keyring words.

Mathematics (EYFS)

This term our mathematical work will focus on a range of topics including measuring and shape, spatial reasoning recognising and writing teen numbers as well as continuing to develop basic adding and subtraction skills. We will also be developing their measuring skills and we will be doing a lot of activities which involve comparing weights and volume. As the weather gets warmer, they will be able to go outside with the water tray and compare amounts of liquid in various containers.

We will also be doing lots of work on basic number skills throughout the term such as counting to 100, adding, subtracting, looking at missing numbers and putting number sets in order. We will also be counting in 2's 5's and 10's.

Understanding of the World/ Plants and animals (EYFS & Y1)

Our topic this term will be based around the growth and change of plants and animals. We are beginning this term by looking at plants and will be planting a variety of plants and vegetables. We are hoping that these will be ready for the children to taste by the end of the summer term. We will of course be exploring how to look after seeds and the things they need to grow into healthy plants, as well as exploring the plants and trees in our school grounds. Hopefully, we will get some good weather so that we can go out onto the field and look for birds, creatures and habitats. Later in the term we will also be doing some pond dipping to find out what is living in our pond.

Understanding the World- Technology/ Information Technology (EYFS & Y1)

The Year 1's will be exploring Spreadsheets and Coding, which means giving a series of steps or instructions to achieve a specific goal. This will include using positional language and giving directions. The Reception children will be practising how to log on to the computers and how to find a particular programme using the icons. We will also be using 'bee bots' this term. These are programmable toys which encourage directional and positional skills.

Physical Development (EYFS & Y1)

This term the children will be concentrating on the games aspect of PE, hopefully taking advantage of some good weather. We will be looking at skills associated with throwing and catching, skipping, bouncing and kicking and striking with a bat.

I hope this outline has been useful, however, please feel free to speak to me after school if you would like any further information, or have any other concerns. If that is not possible, please phone school during lunch time.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs J Clark