

Curriculum Newsletter

Year Two – Autumn Term One



Core Subjects	<u>English</u> We begin the term with the well-loved story <i>The Tiger Who Came to Tea</i>, using it to introduce key writing techniques that support children’s development as writers. These include the word count method, rainbow writing, sentence scrambles and working in threes. Throughout the half term, children will also study <i>Frog and the Stranger</i> by Max Velthuijs and <i>Luna Loves Dance</i> by Joseph Coelho. Our focus will be on constructing correctly punctuated sentences and applying these skills with increasing independence. In reading, children will develop their prediction, retrieval, inference, sequencing and summarising skills through high-quality texts, guided reading sessions, whole-class reading and regular visits to the school library.	<u>Maths</u> This half term, children will develop their understanding of number and place value by recognising the value of each digit in a two-digit number and exploring numbers to 50. They will strengthen their addition and subtraction skills through regular practice of number bonds to 20 and by applying these facts to related calculations within 100. Pupils will also develop fluency in adding and subtracting one- and two-digit numbers using practical and written methods. In addition, they will explore multiplication and division through the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Children will also investigate the properties of 3D shapes and develop their measurement skills through work on length and height.	<u>Science</u> This half term, children will develop their understanding of Extreme Weather and seasonal change. They will explore a variety of weather conditions, including rain, wind, snow and extreme weather, and consider their impact on the environment. Pupils will investigate different types of clouds and carry out practical enquiries involving temperature, rainfall and wind. They will also examine how heat affects soil and the natural world. Throughout the unit, children will collect, record and interpret weather data, enabling them to identify patterns and draw conclusions. This learning will support the development of key scientific enquiry, observation, measurement and data-handling skills.
	<u>Project: Nurses at War (History and Design Technology)</u> This half term, children will explore the significant role of nurses during the Crimean War. They will learn about the lives and achievements of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole, comparing their experiences and examining how they supported soldiers and improved healthcare. Through historical enquiry, pupils will develop their understanding of the lasting impact these individuals had on nursing and medical care. As part of the Design and Technology element of the project, children will learn and practise weaving techniques before designing and creating their own Crimean War-inspired nurse’s basket. This project will foster creativity, practical skills and historical understanding.	<u>Computing</u> This half term, children will explore how information technology (IT) is used positively in everyday life and the benefits it brings to individuals and communities. Beginning with examples of IT in the home, they will investigate how technology supports people in a range of settings, including shops, libraries and hospitals. Through practical activities and discussion, pupils will develop their understanding of how technology can improve communication, access to information and everyday tasks. They will also learn the importance of using technology safely, responsibly and respectfully, helping them to make informed choices and become confident, responsible digital citizens.	<u>Physical Education (PE)</u> This half term, children will develop their football skills through activities focused on dribbling, passing and receiving using their feet. They will learn how to maintain possession, work effectively as part of a team and create opportunities to score, while developing communication and decision-making skills. In gymnastics, pupils will explore ways of linking movements and balances with increasing control and fluency. They will create and perform sequences incorporating jumps, rolls and balances, both on the floor and using apparatus. Through regular practice, children will improve their strength, coordination, flexibility and confidence while learning to evaluate and refine their performances.
	<u>Religious Education (RE): Comparing Religions</u> This half term, children will explore the theme of Nature and God, developing their understanding of how the natural world is valued and celebrated across different religions. They will learn about the Christian Creation Story and the significance of Harvest celebrations for Christians and Jews. Pupils will also explore stories from Buddhism and Islam that highlight the importance of caring for the environment. Through discussion, reflection and comparative learning, children will identify similarities and differences between faith traditions, deepen their understanding of religious beliefs and practices, and develop respect for the views, beliefs and traditions of others.	<u>Music</u> Throughout the half term, children will participate in the Hands, Feet, Heart unit, which introduces them to the rich musical traditions of South Africa. They will explore a range of South African musical styles, including freedom songs, and develop an understanding of the cultural and historical significance of this music. Through singing, clapping, listening and performing activities, pupils will build their confidence as musicians while developing their sense of rhythm, pulse and pitch. They will also have opportunities to improvise and create their own musical ideas, encouraging creativity, expression and collaborative performance skills.	<u>Personal, Social & Health Education (PSHE)</u> This unit is based on the understanding that effective teamwork can have a positive impact on both individual wellbeing and collective achievement. It aims to help children develop key collaborative skills, including active listening, communication and cooperation. Throughout the unit, pupils will explore the importance of kindness, empathy and respect in building positive relationships. They will learn about the effects of bullying and teasing, as well as strategies for responding appropriately if they experience or witness such behaviour. In addition, children will reflect on the characteristics of effective learners and develop their ability to recognise and make positive choices that support their learning, wellbeing and personal development.

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