



Year 1 and 2 Class Newsletter

Summer Term 1

2024 - 2025

Welcome back to an action-packed Summer Term! We hope you had a lovely Easter break.

Over the whole of the summer term, we have got our trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park to look forward to on the 24th June. We also have the Year 2 SATs which will be delivered as activity booklets rather than tests, and we have the Year 1 phonics screening checks in June also.

As the weather gets warmer, please remember to send children in with a hat and apply long lasting suncream before coming to school.

Below you will find information about what we are covering in the curriculum and how you can help to support your child with their learning. Please continue to read 3+ times a week with your child. In Year 2, children should be accessing TT Rockstars and Spelling Shed at least 3 times a week also. We have noticed this isn't happening as often as it should so please ask if you need help on how to get onto the websites. The children's usernames and passwords are in their reading records.

Curriculum

English	Year 1	<p>As per usual, we will continue to focus on our writing non-negotiables, using capital letters, full stops and spaces between our words. To begin our descriptive writing unit, we will be looking at some photographs and images of different places and locations like the beach and fair ground. Within this unit the aim will be for children to be able to identify the nouns they can see and then accurately describe them using adjectives. We will then start to put our ideas together and collaboratively come up with some interesting and gripping descriptions to ensure that our writing is not only accurate but also interesting and exciting too. We will also be introducing the concept of extending our sentences using the conjunction 'and' with both accuracy and purpose.</p> <p>Our second mini writing unit for this half term is all about <i>Where the Wild Things Are</i>. Within this unit we will be introducing the concepts of both exclamation marks and question marks and how they differ from one another. We will be using this text to write a letter to Max within the story and ask him some questions as well as telling him something exciting that has happened to us recently too.</p> <p>Our third and final unit for writing is poetry. We will be exploring the text <i>The Big Book of Blooms</i> and will be writing some simple list poems that include simple but effective adjectives to describe the mysterious flowers and plants that we start to examine within the text.</p>
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	Year 2	To start the term, we will be doing some 'Visual Literacy'. We have an animated video called Caterpillar Shoes and this is going to be the stimulus for our character descriptions. We will then be moving onto instructions and will write about how to make a Rocket Mouse. This Rocket Mouse project will run alongside our SATs booklets so it should be a really nice week for the children. To end the term, we will be reading and writing all about Living Things and their Habitats. We will be reading non-fiction and finding out as many facts as we can before then writing our own fact sheets.
Maths	Year 1	Partitioning numbers from 10 to 20 will be our first unit of teaching this half term. Within this unit we will start to introduce the concept of partitioning the numbers 0 –20 into tens and ones. The children will also be looking at how these numbers fit on a number line and how we can identify the quantity shown in a representation of numbers from 11-19. We will fall back into our vocabulary of 'ten and a bit' to solve some simple maths problems as and also start to explore odd and even numbers within 20 too. Additionally, we will be thinking about doubling and halving numbers from 0-10 and really delve into understanding what doubling and halving really means. We will be drawing upon our number knowledge between 0 and 10 to help build links between our numbers 10-20 as well as starting to introduce our subtraction and addition facts within 20. We will end the term by using a ruler to measure and record using centimetres and begin to estimate length in centimetres also.
	Year 2	In maths this term, we will start by securing our understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be solving word problems by working out what calculation it is asking us to do, and then drawing this out visually before solving it. We will consolidate our times tables knowledge as well as practising column addition and subtraction methods. We will then move onto measure. We will measure objects in cm, mm and m. We will also solve calculations involving length. Finally, we will spend time learning about mass; measuring in grams and kilograms and solving problems with these.
Phonics	Year 1	As we are quickly approaching the Phonics Screening Test (week commencing 9 th June 2025) our Little Wandle Scheme provides us with a recap of most of the digraphs and trigraphs that may appear within the test. The children will not notice a difference in our daily phonics session apart from the fact that we are re-teaching, in order for them to fully embed and absorb the materials we have already taught. We will also be doing some practise phonics screening checks throughout this half term to just see how the children are doing as well. It also provides them with the opportunity to become familiar with the process so that they can successfully access and complete the Phonics Screening Check this year. There will be some additional materials sent home in bookbags over the next few weeks as the children become familiar with the layout and concept of the test itself. Essentially, there are 40 words that are either real or 'alien'. The alien words are all phonetically decodable however, when segmenting and blending are not real - as the words are made up. The children just need a little bit of training to learn how to read words that have no meaning and 'name the alien' as we often say at school! Please do not panic, the children do not see this as a test at all and often find it fun, sitting in Mrs Bloomfield's office with myself reading and having a go at something a bit different on a one to one basis!
Spelling	Year 2	Week 1: a-e, i-e, e-e, o-e, u-e Week 2: possessive apostrophe Week 3: -ment, -ness suffix Week 4: -less suffix

		Week 5: z sound spelt with an s
Geography	All children	<i>Our Wonderful World</i> is our Geography topic for this half term. We will be thinking about the five oceans and seven seas and both naming and locating these on both world maps and in atlases too. Within this unit of learning, we will also be identifying different areas of the world that are generally hotter and colder than others and understanding where these locations are in relation to the equator. We will also be thinking about how aerial photography can be used to identify and capture some key geographical terms such as beach, cliff, mountain, river and lake etc as well as starting to identify famous landmarks around the world and starting to identify if these are either human or physical.
Science	All children	Our science topic for the whole of the summer term is all about <i>Living Things and their Habitats</i> . Within this unit we will be thinking about exploring and comparing the differences between things that are living, dead, alive and never been alive. We will be learning how to identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited. We will also be thinking about how we can describe these habitats and understand how some animals are most suited to one type of habitat. We will identify the basic needs of different types of animals and how often their habitat helps contribute to this. We will also start to look at some smaller microhabitats too.
D&T	All children	Designing a purposeful, functional as well as appealing product is going to be necessary for our DT topic of <i>Vehicles</i> this half term. Within this unit we will be creating a moving vehicle after generating and developing ideas through talking and drawing annotated sketches to show our design ideas. We are going to explore and use different mechanisms such as levers, wheels, sliders and axles, to try and create our own moving vehicle. Once we have designed our moving vehicle, we are going to identify the key features of our creation as well as understanding how to use tools safely and ask the children why they have used these tools specifically for the task they are completing.
Computing	All children	Coding is going to be our focus for this half term. To start our coding journey off, we are initially going to look at what instructions are and predict what will happen then instructions are followed. We will then think about how computers work using programs following instructions called coding. We will start to use a very simple code to make a computer program and start to understand what objects and their actions can be. We will introduce what an event is and use these to control our objects. We will start to think about how we can program our objects or characters to move by writing the instructions for them to complete.
PSHE	All children	<i>Health and Wellbeing</i> will be our unit of study for the whole of the summer term. We will start by looking at physical health and wellbeing and within this section of the larger overarching question. We will look at how and what it means to be healthy and why being healthy is important for us too. We will also learn how to look after ourselves on a daily basis, basic hygiene routines and start to question and think about healthy and unhealthy foods and our sugar intake – however delicious it may be! We will also explore our different types of play, including how we can balance screentime and outdoor play and think about who can help us to stay healthy such as parents, doctors, nurses and even the dentist too! We will lightly touch upon the next mini unit with is all about recognising what makes us unique and special and how we can identify our feelings and how we can manage these when things go wrong.
RE	All children	For RE this half term, we will be looking at the key question <i>Why is it Important to Look After our World?</i> Within this unit we will be thinking about our own

		<p>perspectives about how the world is special and how the world is full of wonder as well as starting to look at how the world began through the eyes of both Christianity and Judaism. We will be investigating what religious stories say about how the world began and think about some of the other explanations about how the world began too. We will contrast and compare the similarities and differences between thoughts about how the world came to be and identify what we believe about these stories and explanations too. We will also think about how we should live together and look after one another and the animals on our planet both to ensure that everyone gets to experience the world we live in today for the positives.</p>
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As always, you know where we are if you need us. It is never any trouble having a quick catch up at the door at the start or the end of the day!

Mrs Thurlow and Mrs Clarke
Year 1 and 2 Class Teachers