



Our Curriculum

Year 1

The Year 1 curriculum includes many practical first hand experiences for the children. We develop skills in reading, writing, number and other curriculum areas from the starting point of a practical task, a story or a visit. These plans have been reviewed and updated in line with the new National Curriculum. Our main themes are:

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Ourselves	Once upon a time	Homes and Habitats
Animals	Journeys	Plants and Growing

English

We have a daily English lesson and a reading time early in the afternoon. Phonic skills for reading and spelling are taught to small groups 4 times a week using the 'Letters and Sounds' programme.

Writing and Handwriting

The children are provided with a variety of exciting reasons to write during the year including lists, invitations, recount (news), alternative story endings, speech bubbles, posters, information leaflets and letters. The children are encouraged to use the sounds they know in their writing. They are taught correct letter formation and how to join their writing. Spelling, grammar and punctuation is taught based on the statutory requirements in the new National Curriculum.

Reading

There are many contexts in which the children develop reading skills. In our English lessons and during individual reading sessions we teach the children a range of skills and strategies. We foster an enjoyment of stories with regular story-times, puppets and role play. We visit the school library to explore non-fiction books in addition to our well-stocked book area in the classroom.

Home – School Reading Books

We provide a range of graded reading books from many different reading schemes for children to use in school and at home. These include reading schemes with a particular emphasis on phonics. Please read with your child regularly at home and encourage them to discuss the story and ways in which they 'work out' unknown words. Teachers provide individual targets in the log as guidance, to help you support your child.

Spoken Language

Children have opportunities to speak and listen during paired or small group work throughout the curriculum, including drama lessons and activities. Each child has a turn to talk to the class and respond to questions during Talk time.

Maths

We have Maths sessions 4 days a week, as well as regular computing sessions with a maths focus. Maths skills are also used during other curriculum areas. The Maths sessions start with a mental challenge, practical activities and recording when appropriate.

Number

We teach using and applying, counting and understanding number,(counting in 2's,10's, 5's,odd/even) knowing and using number facts, number bonds to 10 and calculating, (addition, subtraction, money). We introduce multiplication and division during the summer term.

Shape and space

Children learn about the properties of 2D and 3D shape, measuring, including length, weight, capacity and time. These skills are taught in a 'hands-on' practical way.

Science

We have science weekly, usually a practical 'hands-on' session. We build on the children's knowledge and curiosity of our world. We teach the concept of a 'fair-test'. We investigate the properties of materials. Children learn about their bodies including their senses and naming external and internal body parts. They will learn about what animals and plants need to stay alive and healthy.

Computing and Information Technology

We use a range of resources and programmes to teach Computing skills throughout the curriculum. Children learn how to create and debug simple programs and use logical reasoning. They learn to use technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content. Children are taught about e-safety and to use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private and where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies. Children have access to a bank of laptops and iPads.

Art

Children are taught a variety of skills including, colour mixing and printing using primary colours, close observational drawing, collage, textiles and sculpture. The children learn about Famous artists, and produce a piece of work in the style of that artist.

Design and Technology

Children are taught a range of skills including, accurate cutting, folding, joining, using a template, and sewing. The children are taught how to produce an annotated design. During Food Technology the children design and make a fruit salad. We encourage the children to evaluate their own and each other's work.

Music

Children learn about the elements of Music through singing, using percussion instruments and movement.

History and Geography

In year 1, we compare the lives of Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong. We have a Geography week where we look at our local area. We also use maps and globes to name countries and capital cities.

PE

We have two PE sessions each week, where we teach skills in Games, Gymnastics, Creative dance, Country dancing, Athletics and Yoga.

Personal and Social Education (including Philosophy)

The children learn about the importance of rules, what makes a good friend, keeping safe and looking after our bodies. In Philosophy children develop their deeper thinking skills and discuss the 'big' questions in life.

Religious Education

In Year 1 we learn about Belonging, Welcoming a baby, Stories and Books and Celebrations. We learn about prayer and worship and we compare the Christian faith with the Jewish faith.