



Our Curriculum in Year 1

The Year 1 curriculum encourages the children's ability to learn independently. They continue to develop their literacy and numeracy skills in a range of written and practical activities. The learning is facilitated by hands-on experiences, such as our trip to Lackford Lakes, walks around the local area and curriculum days.



Our plans for our main themes currently are:

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Ourselves	Once Upon a Time	Dinosuars
Animals	Explorers	Plants and Growing

English

We have an English lesson four days a week, a discrete handwriting lesson and a reading time every afternoon. Phonic skills for reading and spelling are taught to small groups four 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. These include lists, invitations, recounts, alternative story endings, speech bubbles, posters, information leaflets and letters. The children are encouraged to use the sounds they know in their writing. Spelling, grammar and punctuation is taught based on the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum.

Reading

There are many contexts in which the children develop reading skills. In our English lessons, phonics and during individual reading session 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 regularly with your child at home and encourage them to discuss the story and ways in which they work out unknown words. Teachers provide individual targets in the reading log as guidance, to help you support your child.

Spoken Language

Children have opportunities to speak and listen during paired or 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

Maths lessons are undertaken four days a week. Maths skills are also used during other curriculum areas. Maths sessions can involve mental challenges, practical activities and recording where appropriate.

The scheme of learning is dictated by the WRMaths (White Rose Maths) which is followed by each year group. This scheme focuses on a mastery approach, looking at being able to exhibit both fluency and reasoning understanding and the ability to apply these skills in a number of problem solving situations. These mathematical skills can be applied and are in evidence across the curriculum.

Number

We teach using and applying, counting and understanding numbers (counting in 2's, 5's, 10's), 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

In science we build on the children's knowledge and curiosity of the world. Children learn about their bodies including their senses and naming external and internal body parts. We look at the different animal classifications. We explore different materials, their properties and their uses. They will learn about the four seasons and what plants need to stay alive and healthy. We will teach the concept of a fair test and use practical 'hands on' activities to support their learning.

Computing/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 programmes 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 iPads and laptops.

Art and Design Technology

Children are taught a variety of skills including colour mixing and printing using primary colours, close observational drawing, collage, textiles and sculpture. The children study art by a range of artists including Paul Klee, Frank Stella and William Morris. They then produce a piece of work in the style of that artist.

Music

In Year 1 Music lessons the children will focus particularly on rhythm and pitch. They will explore the use of percussion instruments and have regular singing sessions. Songs are also used to aid learning across the Year 1 curriculum.

Humanities

In Year 1 we compare the lives of Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong. We learn about the topic 'when Grandad was a boy' looking at changes within the home and school that have occurred over the last 50 years. We look closely at our local area, using goggle earth and local walks. We use maps and globes to name countries and capital cities.

Physical Education

We have two PE sessions each week, where we teach skills in games, gymnastics, creative dance, country dancing, athletics and yoga.

Children will learn skills and strategies that apply to many different sports. They will learn how to use and control a range of equipment, as well as their bodies. In dance, they will join this with their imagination to work creatively.

Personal and Social Education and Philosophy

The children learn about the importance of rules, keeping safe and looking after our bodies. In Year 1 many areas of the PSHE curriculum are taught through stories, role play and discussion as events occur. Examples of this include how to share, and how to be a good friend. In Philosophy children develop their deeper thinking skills and discuss the 'big' questions in life.

Religious Education

We follow Suffolk's Agreed Syllabus. We explore beliefs and questions about God and religion within Christianity and Judaism. We learn by studying the beliefs and actions of Christian children Andy and Clare, and Jewish children Hannah and Reuben. Themes covered include aspects of belonging, and the importance of stories from the Bible and Torah.