

Year 1

Curriculum Newsletter



BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS STRAIGHT FROM THE CLASSROOM



KEY DATES

End of Term 1:
Friday 22nd October

Start of Term 2:
Monday 1st November

Parent Conferences:
Thursday 2nd and
Tuesday 7th December

English & Grammar

After an initial recap of Reception learning, which will include consolidation of the phonemes and high frequency word practice, Year One will learn the correct use of capital letters, proper nouns, common nouns, full stops and adjectives. The children will also look at the prefix –un and the regular past tense using the suffix –ed.

This knowledge will be applied to descriptive caption-writing related to stories from a familiar setting and stories from another culture.

Our weekly spellings will concentrate on the application of phonemes and the Year One High Frequency Words.

Word classes covered will include:

Noun—the name of a person (e.g. boy, Lucy, doctor), place (e.g. beach, Liverpool) or thing (e.g. paper clip, love, Heinz Baked Beans). Some nouns are ‘proper’ (i.e. special names) which must start with capital letters. Others are ‘common’ and are used more generally.

Adjective—a word that describes a noun. It provides more information about the noun. We regularly find them preceding nouns (e.g. I lounged on the comfortable, relaxing chair.)

Ancient History

In history, we will be learning about real people and real events from the past. This autumn, we will be studying ‘Ancient Egypt’.

Key Learning

- Egypt is a hot country located in North Africa.
- The Egyptian’s built their towns and cities along a river called the Nile.
- The river sustained the Egyptians, providing water for cooking and cleaning as well as fish.
- The Egyptians travelled along the Nile by boat.
- Farmers grew fruit, vegetables and other plants on the banks of the Nile. The yearly floods made the soil good for growing.

- Surplus crops were sold in markets.
- Egyptian houses were made of mud and painted white to keep them cool.
- Beds and pillows were hard and wooden.
- Rich people had servants.
- Egyptian Kings, called pharaohs, were rich and important.
- Pharaohs made laws, gave orders and led soldiers to fight enemies.
- Ramesses III is a well-known pharaoh.
- Egyptians believed in many different gods and goddesses, some of whom looked like animals.
- Sekhmet was a war goddess.
- Ra was the sun god.
- Bes looked after children and families.
- Ma’at was the goddess of truth.
- Horus looked after pharaohs.
- Egyptians built huge stone temples to worship pharaohs and gods.
- Priests prayed to a statue of a god or pharaoh in the temple.
- When an important person died, their body was wrapped to preserve it. This is called making a mummy.
- Mummies were given a mask and laid in a coffin which was shaped like a person and covered with spells and pictures.
- When a pharaoh died, his coffin was put inside a giant stone pyramid.
- Later, Egyptians buried important people in underground tombs instead. These tombs were filled with treasure which robbers often tried to steal by digging into the tombs.

Key Words

Ancient, Egyptians, Nile, land, houses, garden, dried mud, kings, pharaohs, chariot, decorated, soldiers, god, goddess, temple, stone, priest, worship, statue, jackal, pyramids, tombs and mummy.

Science

Science is knowledge about the natural world that is based on facts learnt through experiments and observation. In Autumn 1, Year One will be learning about 'The Solar System'.

Key Learning

- The solar system is made up of 8 planets: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.
- The sun is a star.
- Mercury is the smallest planet. It is closest to the sun.
- Venus is the hottest planet. It could melt the surface of the Earth.
- Earth is the most unique planet. It is the only planet where humans live. We live on Planet Earth.
- Mars is often called the red planet. It is the most similar planet to Earth.
- Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system. It is made of four rings wrapped together.
- Saturn is a very warm planet. The planet has no surface because it's made up of gas.
- Uranus is a blue planet. It is covered in ice because it is so far away from the sun.
- Neptune is the furthest planet from the sun. It has lots of dark storms.
- In space, the planets might look close together, but there is actually a huge distance between each planet. This is called 'relative distance'.
- When something produces its own light we call this a light source.
- The Earth orbits around the Sun which takes a year. The sun provides Earth's light.
- The Earth is also rotating on its axis.
- It takes 24 hours for the Earth to rotate, and that's why we have night and day.
- The moon orbits around Earth. It takes 30 days to orbit Earth. The moon is not a light source, instead it reflects the light from the sun.
- The part of Earth that is facing away from the sun is dark. We call this night.
- When an object blocks a light source it creates a shadow.
- Seasons are four different times of the year with different weather, and length of days.
- There are four seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter.

Key Words

Planet, Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, star, surface, solar system, gas, ice, storms, (relative) distance, light source, orbit, rotate, axis, reflect, shadow, season, spring, summer, autumn and winter.

In Autumn 2, Year One will be learning about 'Everyday Materials'.

Key Learning

- A material is what an object is made from.
- Property means what a material is like.
- A material is waterproof if it stops water from going through it.
- Some properties of materials include being strong, flexible, rigid, hard, soft, smooth, rough, etc.
- Liquids can be poured and they take the shape of the container. Liquids are difficult to hold.
- Solids cannot be poured and they keep their shape. They are easy to hold and can be cut or shaped.
- All liquids turn into solids at some temperature.
- When liquids turn into solids, we say that they solidify. We use the word 'freeze' mainly for water-containing liquids.
- When solids turn into liquids, we say that they 'melt'.
- A gas is a state of matter which will expand freely to fill the whole of a container
- A gas does not have a fixed shape (unlike a solid).
- A gas has no fixed volume (unlike a liquid).
- Gases are often invisible.
- Sometimes transparent gases are mixed with tiny solid particles (such as in a bonfire), or liquid particles (such as a boiling kettle).

Key Words

Material, property, waterproof, strong, flexible, rigid, hard, soft, smooth, rough, liquid, container, solid, temperature, solidify, melt, freeze, gas, expand, volume, invisible, transparent and particles.

Maths

In Autumn 1 and 2, Year One will be learning the following:

- how to identify, represent, compare and order numbers to 20.
- how knowledge of number (specifically place value and number bonds) can be applied to simple addition and subtraction equations.
- how to identify, complete and create shape and patterns.
- number facts: 1+1, 2+2, 3+3, 4+4, 5+5, 2+1, 2+3, 1+9, 2+8, 3+7, 4+6, 5+5.

Key Words

More, less, subtraction, addition, 2D shapes, 3D shapes, pattern, repeating, value, order, equal to, digit and part-whole.

Geography

Geography is the study of people and places.

In Autumn 1 and 2, Year One will be learning about 'Planet Earth' and 'Globes and Maps'.

Key Learning

- We live on a planet called Earth.
- We are part of a galaxy called the Milky Way.
- We get sunlight and our heat from a star called the Sun.
- A globe is a model of Planet Earth.
- Unlike a globe, a map is flat.
- Maps are accurate pictures of the Earth's surface.
- The world's surface is made up of water and land.
- Maps show us what different places in the world look like.

Key Words

Planet, Earth, galaxy, Milky Way sunlight, globe, map.

Religious Education

Our religious education curriculum is designed to promote understanding and tolerance of others' beliefs. Years One and Two will simultaneously learn about Judaism in Autumn 1.

Key Learning

- Judaism is a religion that began nearly 4,000 years ago in the Middle East.
- Jewish people, or Jews, are people who follow Judaism.
- Jewish people believe that there is one God.
- Jewish people believe that God cares about how people behave.
- Jewish people believe that God made a covenant, or agreement, with a man called Abraham. Jewish people promise to follow God's laws in return for God looking after them.
- Jewish people believe that God is very powerful and morally good. Many Jewish people believe that God knows everything
- The Jewish sacred text, or holy book, is called the Tanakh.
- The Tanakh is divided into three parts. The first part is called the Torah.
- The Torah contains many commandments. These are rules that many Jewish people try to follow. The most important are called the Ten Commandments, which God gave to a man called Moses. These include the instructions not to worship other gods, not to kill and not to steal.
- The scrolls of the Torah are so special that people are not allowed to touch them. They use a special pointer to follow the words.
- Jewish people worship God in a synagogue.
- Synagogues contain an ark, where the scrolls of the Torah are kept.
- Jewish people have special services on Saturdays. These services are led by rabbis (spiritual leaders).
- Traditionally, men and women sat apart from each other. Today, they sit apart in some synagogues and together in others.

Key Words

Belief/to believe, God, Middle East, religion, agreement, covenant, morally, commandment, holy, sacred, scroll, Tanakh, text, Torah, ark, rabbi, service, synagogue and to worship.

PSHE

Year One will be covering rules and routines for a successful year, respecting ourselves and others, and being the best we can be. Some units will be taught through the use of storybooks.

Key Learning

- The meaning of the school rules:
 - 1) We come to school to learn
 - 2) We keep each other safe
 - 3) We respect each other
- The roles different people play in our lives, and how family members, friends and teachers demonstrate care.
- How to ask for help if they are unhappy, feel unsafe or are worried about someone else, including words they can use and which adults to speak to.
- How to reflect on one's own special qualities to develop self-respect.
- The importance of kindness, and how they can show kindness to others in different ways.
- How to demonstrate respect to others.
- Appreciating that others may have similar special qualities, but we all have our own blend of interests, traits and characteristics that make us unique.
- The importance of respecting everyone including those with whom they disagree, with whom they are not friends or who are different from them.
- How being special does not mean being perfect.
- Mistakes are natural. It is okay to make them and we can learn from them.
- Goals are things that we are trying to achieve.
- We can make little steps to achieve our goals.
- It is important to persevere when things are difficult.
- Embarrassment is an emotion. It can cause problems but these can be overcome.
- Stephen Hawking, Pele and Malala Yousafzai all demonstrated persistence and hard work. We can learn from their life stories.

Music

Over the course of this term, we shall be developing our knowledge of rhythm, pulse and pitch, and learning musical notation, including (for example) the treble clef. There will be a particular focus on Saint-Saëns' *The Carnival of the Animals*, and we will be singing songs of roughly ABRSM Grade 2 difficulty.

PE

This term we will be looking to build upon our teamwork and co-operation as well as advancing our balance and hand-eye co-ordination. We will also be looking to improve upon our decision making within physical activity.