Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2025

English

In English this year we will spend time daily practicing our handwriting and improving both our gross and fine motor skills.

This term we will enjoy a range of 'beat the monster' stories focusing on the traditional tale of 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. We will explore this story through a range of activities and build up to writing our own innovated version of it.

In the second half of the term we will read and innovate our own 'losing tale' followed by Christmas inspired instructional writing.

Reading

The children will continue to participle in our phonics program 'Little Wandle' where they will be taught sound recognition for reading and spelling. They will also complete reading sessions three times a week and visit the school library weekly. There will also be daily story time sessions to instill a love of reading.

Computing

The children will be thinking about the good uses of information technology (IT) in our everyday lives. They will be learning how to use a laptop and starting to develop their keyboard skills, using a mouse and a keypad.

The children will then begin to explore how devices can capture, edit and improve photographs.

The underling theme throughout our computing lessons will be staying safe online.



We hope this newsletter provides you with some useful information about the areas that our year children will be covering this term.

If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Holland & Miss Main

Weekly Home Learning

Reading — Your child should be reading at least 3 times per week and will receive a school reading book every Thursday.

Spelling - Your child will receive 5 weekly spellings every Thursday for them to practice at home. These will link to the spellings they have completed during their learning in phonics that week.

Maths - Your child will receive a numbots login to bring home. Here they can access lots of maths based games and complete challenges to earn certificates in our whole school assemblies.

We may occasionally send some stand alone project based home learning linked to our topics.

Maths

In maths this term the children will be starting the year 1 White Rose maths scheme. We will be working though units on place value, addition and subtraction in the first half term and move on to shape and place value to 20 in the second half term.

Maths Mastery

The children will take part in a daily "Maths Mastery" session that involves using familiar practical equipment to help the them retain and embed number facts. This develops a solid understanding of the number system, number bonds and double facts.



Religious Education

In RE the Hedgehogs will be looking at the topic of "belonging". The children will discuss their own experience of belonging, thinking about families and groups they belong too.

The children will be exploring "Making promises" after half term. The children will have the opportunity to talk about their feeling and ideas and what it means to make a promise.

History

We will be learning about the lives of two significant individuals from the past who have contributed to national and international achievements. Our focus individuals are Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. The children will be finding out about how Florence Nightingale helped soldiers in the Crimean War, explore the ways in which she changed nursing conditions as a result and become the Lady of the Lamp.

They will then find out about the life of Mary Seacole and how she also helped soldiers during the war. Finally the children will compare these two nurses and explore the impact both had on the nursing profession.



Science

We will start our year 1 science by exploring the topic of "Living things and their habitats"

We will be exploring the outside environment looking for animals and plants. We will look at their locations and find out why they thrive in the places we find them. The children will be developing their scientific skills of observation, making comparisons, describing and recognising living things. We will move onto exploring simple food chains and how to identify animal and plant groups. The children will record their findings through drawings and photos.

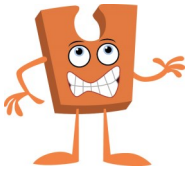
After half term we will begin to look at the properties and uses of materials and carry out simple experiments and tests.



PSHE

For PSHE we will be following the Jigsaw scheme. Our first topic this term will be "Being me in my world". This focuses on the children feeling safe in their classes and learning about rewards and consequences.

Following on from this topic we will be looking at "Celebrating difference" which explores what makes us unique and we will be identifying similarities and differences between our peers.



Art & DT



In Art we will focus on the skill of drawing and develop our use of a range of tools (pencils, crayons, pastels, charcoal and ink pens) to experiment with different techniques, produce simple line drawings, draw shapes and produce a creative pieces. We will also explore the work of a famous artist and study their techniques.

In DT we will explore a range of structures e.g. playground equipment, street furniture. We will investigate their purposes, find out how they were built and then design and build our own structures using taught techniques in folding, cutting and joining.

PE

Indoor PE this term will be on a Monday morning with Tigers Trust. Our outdoor PE will be on a Thursday Morning. The children will be exploring movement, ball skills and team work through playing traditional playground games.

Please ensure that all PE kit is clearly labelled with your child's name

Reminder: School rules state that hair should be tied back and earrings removed or taped up for PE in line with health and safety.



Music

In music the children will be developing their understanding or rhythm and be given opportunities to create and perform their own sequences. We will be learning songs and explore using percussion instruments and chime bars to accompany songs.

The children will be able to listen to different genres of music and start to identify the different instruments they can hear and discuss how it makes them feel.



Subject Specific Vocabulary– History:

Nurses – Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole

Exciting reading linking to Nurses unit:

- ***Little People, Big Dreams: Florence Nightingale*** by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara, illustrated by Kelsey Garrity-Riley
- ***Florence Nightingale*** (Usborne Famous Lives) by Lucy Lethbridge, illustrated by Karen Donnelly
- ***The Unstoppable Mary Seacole*** by Lucy Thuo, illustrated by Eryanto
- ***Hoorah for Mary Seacole*** by Trish Cooke, illustrated by Anni Axworthy
  A colourful, accessible story for early readers that depicts Mary's bravery, nursing skills, and her famed "British Hotel" in the Crimea.



Crimean War	The **Crimean War** took place from **October 1853 to February 1856**. It was fought between **Russia** and an alliance of countries including **Britain, France, the Ottoman Empire (Turkey), and Sardinia-Piedmont (part of Italy today)**.
Florence Nightingale Lamp	•She is known as the **founder of modern nursing**. •She worked in hospitals in Constantinople (now Istanbul) during the Crimean War, where she organised the care of wounded soldiers. •By making hospitals cleaner, with fresh air, clean water, and better food, she helped save many lives. •She became known as *"The Lady with the Lamp"* because at night she walked through the hospital carrying a lamp, checking on her patients
Mary Seacole Jamaica Hotel	•She was a Jamaican born nurse and businesswoman. •She travelled to the war at her own expense to help soldiers. •She set up the **British Hotel**, sometimes called the "Jamaica Hotel," where she provided food, drinks, medicine, and care for the sick and wounded.
Nursing Hygiene	•Nursing is about keeping people clean, safe, and cared for so they can get better. •Florence Nightingale believed that things like **fresh air, clean water, light, and hygiene** help the body heal itself. •Mary Seacole showed courage and kindness by giving both medical help and comfort to soldiers, even in dangerous situations.
Modern	Today, **modern nursing** is built on what women like Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole taught us. Nurses not only care for patients but also help prevent illness and promote good health.