
Half-Termly Curriculum Snapshot

Hedgehogs - Spring 1

Our Topic for this Half-Term: What changed in Britain after the Romans left?

Key Learning Highlights

Here's a glimpse into the exciting learning journey your child will embark on this half-term, covering all aspects of the National Curriculum:



English:

- What we're reading: The Dragon Machine by Helen Ward.
- What we're writing: Narrative Writing
- Key skills:
Writing consistently in the correct tense; prepositional phrases, fronted adverbials, using a wider range of co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions, paragraphing around a theme.



Mathematics:

- Main topics:
Multiplication and division; Length and perimeter; Money.
- Key skills: Applying problem-solving strategies, developing mental fluency and reasoning mathematically.



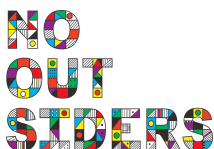
Science:

- Main topics: Forces and Magnets
- Key questions: How do magnetic forces act? Which materials are magnetic?
- Engaging Activities: Active learning; testing materials.
- Prior Learning Connection: Everyday Materials



History: What happened in Britain after the Romans left?

- Big Ideas: Anglo-Saxon gods and religion; Artefacts and Culture; Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms.
- Engaging Activities: Anglo-Saxon trip.
- Prior Learning Connection: Toys; Space.



Art & Design:

Focus: Drawing techniques using a range of materials.

Design & Technology:

Focus: Needlework and Textiles - taught in Spring 2.

Music:

- Focus: To learn about interrelated dimensions of music through games, singing and composing with a focus on one song: Stop! - a rap/song about bullying.
- Key Skills: Performing, listening and understanding musical elements.

Physical Education (PE):

Focus: Dodgeball

- Key Skills: Throwing; Defending; Tactics.

Hedgehogs' PE days are Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Computing:

- Focus: Photo Editing
- Key Skills: Learners will develop their understanding of how digital images can be changed and edited, and how they can then be resaved and reused. They will consider the impact that editing images can have, and evaluate the effectiveness of their choices.

Religious Education (RE):

- Focus: Christianity and the Bible.
- Key Skills: Understanding, Comparing and Contrasting.

Relationships & Health Education (RHE) & PSHE: HeartSmart & No Outsiders

- Focus: This half-term, we will be continuing our work with HeartSmart, focusing on 'Too Much Selfie Isn't Healthy' - understanding emotions and kindness.
- Key Learning: Loving others; Awareness of people around us; Reading facial expressions and body language; Teamwork; Responsible use of phones and tablets.
- We will also integrate our No Outsiders programme, promoting inclusivity, celebrating diversity, and ensuring every child feels valued and belongs within our school family.
- Key No Outsiders learning: Caring friendships: The characteristics of friendships, including mutual respect, truthfulness, trustworthiness, loyalty, kindness, generosity, trust, sharing interests and experiences and support with problems and difficulties.
- Key No Outsiders text: The truth about old people - Elina Ellis
- Key No Outsiders learning: Respectful relationships: What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive.

Supporting Learning at Home -

Your partnership is invaluable! Here are simple ways you can support your child's learning this half-term:

- **Read Together:** Share stories, non-fiction books, and discuss what you're reading. Listen to your child read their free reading or Phonics book and sign their reading diary.
- **Supporting homework,** including helping your child log onto TT Rockstars and Spelling Shed. Play Maths games on the Top Marks or NRICH websites. Practise reading and spelling the common exception words.
- **Talk About It:** Ask your child about their Geography and Science and what they've discovered in their lessons. Watch BBC Bitesize videos together and look on Google Earth.
- **Explore:** Look for connections to our topics in your local community, through documentaries, or online resources.
- **Be a Kind Citizen:** Discuss how your family can contribute positively to your local community and beyond, demonstrating kindness and respect for all.

Home learning opportunities

Here is a range of home learning opportunities tailored to each subject. These activities are designed to connect with the core theme of **"What changed in Britain after the Romans left?"** and other key curriculum areas.

History: The Anglo-Saxons

- **Anglo-Saxon Name Creator:** Research Anglo-Saxon naming conventions (often combining two words like 'Aethel' and 'flaed') and create your own Anglo-Saxon name and title.
- **Artefact Detective:** Look at pictures of the Sutton Hoo treasure online. Draw one item (like the helmet or a piece of jewelry) and write down three questions you would ask the person who owned it.
- **The Fifth Century Feast:** With an adult's help, research and try to make a simple Anglo-Saxon style snack, such as honey-oat cakes or pottage.

English: Narrative & The Dragon Machine

- **Dragon Senses Grid:** Imagine you are flying on a "Dragon Machine" above your own house. Create a grid and write down what you would see, hear, and feel, using prepositional phrases like "high above the rooftops" or "beside the tall oak tree".
- **Design a New Machine:** George made a machine for dragons. Draw a machine for a different creature (like a "Giant Snail Machine" or an "Alien Shuttle") and label the parts using expanded noun phrases.
- **Setting Description:** Write a short paragraph describing where your creature lives. Try to start at least two sentences with a fronted adverbial, such as "Deep in the dark forest..." or "Under the shimmering waves..."

Mathematics: Fluency & Measurement

The main topics are multiplication, division, length, perimeter, and money.

- **The Perimeter Hunt:** Use a ruler or tape measure to find the perimeter of flat objects around your home, such as a book, a tablet, or a placemat. Record the length of each side and the total perimeter.
- **Mini-Shopkeeper:** Set up a small "shop" using toys or pantry items. Practice "buying" items and calculating the correct change from £1 or £5 to build mental fluency with money.
- **Arrays in the Kitchen:** Use muffin tins, egg boxes, or dry pasta to create "arrays" to represent multiplication facts from the 3, 4, or 8 times tables (e.g., 3 rows of 4).

Science: Forces & Magnets

This term explores how magnetic forces act and which materials are magnetic.

- **Magnetic Scavenger Hunt:** If you have a fridge magnet, take it around the house to test different objects (spoons, coins, plastic toys, etc.). Create a table to show which items are magnetic and which are not.
- **Magnet Maze:** Draw a simple maze on a piece of paper or card. Place a paperclip on top of the paper and use a magnet underneath to guide the paperclip through the maze without touching it.

Other Subjects

- **Computing (Photo Editing):** Use a tablet or phone to take photos of "hidden letters" in nature or around the house (e.g., a twig shaped like a 'Y') and use a simple editing tool to crop or change the colors.
- **Religious Education (Christianity):** Read a story about one of Jesus' disciples and create a "calling" poster, showing what they had to leave behind and why they chose to follow him.
- **PSHE (No Outsiders):** Based on the book *The Truth About Old People*, talk with your family about what a "stereotype" is and how we can show respect to people of all ages.
- **Art:** Practice "illuminated letters"—drawing a large, decorative first letter for your name, similar to the style used in ancient Anglo-Saxon manuscripts.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Mr Babington

Hedgehogs Teacher

Wincham Community Primary School