



YEAR 1

SPRING 2026 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

For all the essential information about what we will learn during this term.

English

The Lion Inside

- Continue to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop and learn to add in some question marks and exclamation marks
- Use some story language and include and describe new characters
- Write a story about a small animal (mouse) who befriends a large animal in the African savannah

The Curious Case of the Missing Mammoth

- Write and describe a new story setting
- Write a story based on the structure of 'The Curious Case of the Missing Mammoth' with a change of character

Music

Sound patterns

- To know that an instrument or rhythm pattern can represent a character in a story
- Sections of music can be described as loud, quiet or silent and the meaning of these terms

Pitch

- Sounds within music can be described as high or low sounds and the meaning of these terms
- In all pictorial representations of music, representations further up the page are higher sounds and those further down are lower sounds

Personal, Social, Health & Relationships Education

Keeping myself safe

- Recognise feelings associated with loss
- Know that medicines can sometimes help ill people feel better
- Identify who can help keep us safe if we feel unsafe

My Happy Mind Appreciate

- Learn how to show appreciation and to appreciate ourselves as well as others
- Learn the importance of sleep for our brains and how we can sleep better with a bedtime routine

Rights and Respect

- Recognise who looks after the school environment
- Explain where people get their money from
- Recognise different notes and coins and that we need to keep money safe

My Happy Mind – Relate

- Learn what relate means
- Learn how our character strengths can help us relate to others
- Learn about active listening

Modern Foreign Languages

- Know the Spanish names for different colours
- Know the Spanish numbers 0 to 10

Mathematics

Addition and subtraction within 20

- Compose numbers to 20 from 2 parts, and partition numbers to 10 into parts, including recognising odd and even numbers
- Read, write and interpret equations containing addition (+), subtraction (-) and equals (=) symbols, and relate additive expressions and equations to real-life contexts
- Develop fluency in addition

Fractions

- Recognise, find and name a half as one of two equal parts of an object, shape or quantity
- Recognise, find and name a quarter as one of four equal parts of an object, shape or quantity

Shapes

- Recognise common 2D and 3D shapes presented in different orientations, and know that rectangles, triangles, cuboids and pyramids are not always similar to one another
- Compose 2D and 3D shapes from smaller shapes to match an example, including manipulating shapes to place them in particular orientations

Position and direction

- Describe position, direction and movement, including whole, half, quarter and three-quarter turns

Time

- Sequence events in chronological order using language [for example, before and after, next, first, today, yesterday, tomorrow, morning, afternoon and evening]
- Recognise and use language relating to dates, including days of the week, weeks, months and years
- Tell the time to the hour and half past the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times

Mathematics

- Measure and begin to record time (hours, minutes, seconds) Compare, describe and solve practical problems for time

Physical Education

Gymnastics

- Copy and explore basic actions with some control and co-ordination
- Recognise and use space effectively

Games – Target and Catching

- Introduce/develop stopping and combining sending skills
- Develop catching skills including tracking the ball and being ready to receive it

Religious Education

What does the Bible teach us about God's love?

- The Creation story is in the beginning of the Bible
- Christians believe Jesus is God's Son and came as a human to show God's love
- The Bible has stories of God's love and forgiveness to people in parables
- Jesus used miracles to show God's love to the world

What is the most important part of the Easter story?

- Easter is a special time for Christians to remember that Jesus died on a cross
- Christians use symbols like eggs to remind them of the new life God promised
- The Easter story has sad and happy parts
- Christians believe Easter is a new beginning because Jesus rose from the dead
- Christians call Jesus rising from the dead the resurrection

Art

Watercolours

- How to use watercolours and palette
- New colours can be made by mixing other colours
- Colours that are made by mixing are called secondary colours
- Colours that cannot be made by mixing are called primary colours
- All other colours can be made by mixing primary colours

Sketching and Shading

- Know that shading is used to represent light and dark
- Know that there are different pencil techniques to create contrast
- Know that different pencil techniques create different effects
- Know that Picasso was a Spanish artist
- Know that some of his most famous pieces of art include The Bull's head and Three Musicians

Geography

Seasons and Weather

- Know that the United Kingdom is made up of 4 countries – England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- Know the capital cities of the 4 countries of the UK
- Know and describe the seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom
- Know the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Pole

Design Technology

Mechanisms and Sliders

- Explore a range of books that use sliders and leavers Understand that sliders move in a straight line
- Understand levers move in a curve
- Select and use tools to cut, shape and join paper and card
- Use simple finishing techniques e.g. colour/paint the product

Science

Animals

- Know that animals vary in many ways having different structures e.g. wings, tails, ears etc
- Know that they also have different skin coverings e.g. scales, feathers, hair
- Know that these key features can be used to identify them. Animals eat certain things – some eat other animals, some eat plants, some eat both plants and animals
- Know the names of the main body parts including head, neck, arms, elbows, legs, knees, face, eyes, ears, hair, mouth, teeth
- Know that humans have key parts in common, but these vary from person to person. Humans (and other animals) find out about the world using their senses. Humans have five senses – sight, touch, taste, hearing and smelling. These senses are linked to particular parts of the body

Seasonal Changes

- Know that seasons are the different times in the year when there are changes in the weather
- Know that there are four seasons – Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer
- Know that the weather is typically different in each season
- Know that in the Spring and Summer the days are longer than in Autumn and Winter
- Know that different things happen in different seasons

Modern Foreign Languages

- Know the Spanish names for different colours
- Know the Spanish numbers 0 to 10

Computing

Digital Photographs

- Know that images can be taken using different devices
- Know that photos can be imported into apps
- Know what photos can be manipulated e.g. text added
- Know that photos can be saved to be viewed or amended further

PE and Forest School

- PE Days are Wednesday and Thursday
- There is no Forest School this term

Local Visits You Can Do

- Church
- Chester Zoo
- Caldy Valley Nature park

History

Toys over time

- Toys have existed for thousands of years and were made out of material that was available at the time
- Toys were mainly made of wood, paper and metal in the Victorian age
- Modern toys are mainly made of plastic
- Many modern toys use electricity to work
- Computers and consoles were invented in the 20th Century

Useful Websites

- www.phonicsplay.co.uk
- www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games
- www.bbc.bitesize
- www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org
- www.topmarks.co.uk

Upcoming dates:

- 8th January: Early Help Navigator outside school at 8.40am
- 19th January: Spring term Clubs start
- 4th February: Early Help Navigator outside school at 8.40am
- 16th – 20th February: School Holidays

Homework

- Homework is set on a Thursday. Your child will receive a Little Wandle Reading book, a pleasure for reading book, Little Wandle spellings and alternate English and Mathematics task
- It is due back to school on a Tuesday where it will be marked
- Your child is expected to read daily

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