HARRIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Be Kind • Be Thankful • Be Ambitious

YEAR 1 NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2nd Half 2026

I hope you have all had a lovely half term. I am sure there has been lots of pumpkin picking and Halloween activities. We have another busy half term ahead and lots to learn. We are delighted to have Mrs Hallsworth, our trainee teacher, continuing to work with us in Year 1. She will be teaching more lessons alongside me, giving the children further opportunities to learn and benefit from her support.

Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask on the door at the end of the day or contact school using the following email: staff@harris.lancs.sch.uk.

Kind regards,

Miss Rigby

English

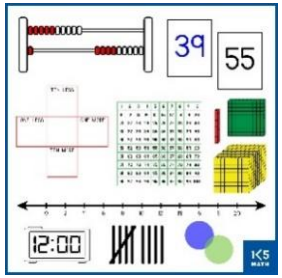
We will begin by learning a Bonfire Night poem before writing our own including adding -ed suffixes.

Next, we will explore *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers, using story maps to help us retell the story and create our own versions by changing the main characters. We will then learn about polar animals and write a non-chronological report about our favourite one.



Maths

We will begin this half term by learning about sequencing and sorting including counting in twos, fives and tens. Following on from that, we will learn the fractions $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$. Then, we will measure capacity in practical activities. We will also learn about money including recognising coins, ordering their values and adding two prices together. Finally, we will complete a unit on time including days of the week, months of the year and measure and compare time in seconds.



Phonics/Reading

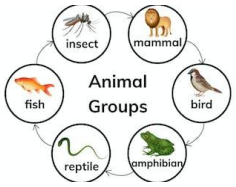
Please make sure you continue to read on a regular basis with your child. This includes listening to them read and asking questions. If your child has finished their book, we recommend they re-read it to build fluency. Children will be listened to each week on their reading day. Their books will also be changed on this day.

Library: All children will be able to borrow a book from our KS1 library every Wednesday or Thursday. Each book should be returned, before a new one is issued.

Science

What are the animal groups?

In Science, we will continue exploring the animal kingdom and learning how to group animals by their features. The children will identify fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, before discovering the differences between carnivores, herbivores and omnivores and what they eat. We will also learn about the five things all living things do: move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce.



Our significant people for this topic are Sir David Attenborough and Jane Goodall, who have helped us learn more about animals and their habitats.

A little warning! Our investigations might even involve exploring animal poo to discover what animals have been eating! Don't worry, it will be child-friendly and hands-on learning at its best!

Geography and History

This half term, we are going on an exciting adventure to the icy polar regions! The children will discover fascinating places, learn about amazing wildlife and find out about the brave explorers who travelled to some of the coldest places on Earth.

How can we look after penguin homes?

In Geography, we will learn about the continents, oceans and equator, using maps to explore our world. We will then discover what life is like in the polar regions, learn about penguins and their habitats, and explore how we can help protect these special environments.



Who has explored the Poles?

In History, we will learn about famous polar explorers and the challenges they faced. We will discover how Matthew Henson and Robert Peary travelled to the North Pole, before exploring the exciting race between Roald Amundsen and Robert Falcon Scott to be the first to reach the South Pole. We will also learn about Preet Chandi, a remarkable modern-day explorer who has travelled to both Poles.



Our significant people for this topic are Matthew Henson and Preet Chandi.

Computing

Digital painting

We will be creating artwork both digitally and non-digitally and making comparisons. We will use the program Paintz for this unit.

Online Safety

Online Relationships and Online Reputation

PE

Mr Ridge will be teaching PE on Friday mornings. Please ensure your child's PE kit is back in school by Friday 6th November.

KS1 Y1 FMS

Lost and Found

KS1 Y1 Gymnastics

Activities 2

PSHE

My Happy Mind

Meet your brain

Relationship Curriculum 3

Relationship Curriculum 4

myHappymind

RE

Christianity: Jesus

Why is Jesus special to Christians?

The nativity story, beliefs about Jesus and Christmas.

Music

It's a Boy! (Musical Theatre -Nativity)

Key Skill: Singing

Spanish

We will use the Language Angels programme to learn continue to learn basic greetings.

Hello, my name is, how are you and goodbye



Design Technology

Freestanding Structures

This half term, we will continue with our designs and make a freestanding chair or table for Father Christmas. We will explore how to make structures strong, stiff and stable, experiment with different materials and joining techniques, and develop our practical skills by planning, building and testing our designs.

We would appreciate any amazon cardboard boxes and stiff cardboard to help us make our structures.

Reminders

Parents Evenings Tuesday 10th November and Thursday 12th November. Please book via School Spider. This will be a chance to discuss how your child has settled into Year 1 and share their learning so far this year.

Nativity- Our EYFS and Key Stage One nativity will take place in December. There will be an afternoon performance and an evening performance. More details information will be sent in the next few weeks.

Fruit and Milk- Please check with your child if they would like to have milk. Please speak to the office staff if your child would like milk or if you would like to cancel it. Every child in Key Stage 1 has a piece of fruit provided. If your child would like to bring a snack from home, please ensure it is a healthy snack and MUST NOT CONTAIN NUTS.

Wellies & Waterproofs – We love using our outdoor area during the wetter, colder months. To keep school shoes clean, we ask that your child has a pair of wellies in school for when it gets muddy. Should you need them back for weekend walks, you will be able to grab them. Please ensure your child has a suitable coat in school every day.

Book Bags/Reading Packs – The children need their book bags and reading packs in school every day. Please ensure their bag is clearly named and avoid attaching large keyrings because they struggle to fit them into their trays.

Homework- Homework is set each half term. There will be a range of activities linked to what we are learning in class. Green challenges are quick and the easiest and dark red are longer projects that may take some time. It is not expected that all tasks are completed but that you have a selection of tasks that suits your child and your home-life. Children can complete tasks in their homework book. We will share and celebrate any tasks in class at the end of the half term when we collect their books in.

Spellings – Weekly spellings are set on Spelling Frame. Their log in details are stuck in their reading records. Please ensure your child completes their weekly spellings as it really does help their writing in class.

Numbots – This is a program that supports pupils number knowledge and mental recall. Please ensure your child completes a level each week as it really does help with the maths learning in class. Their log in details are stuck in their reading records.

Names – Please remember to write/stick your child's name on all their belongings, including coats, hats, scarves, gloves and wellies.