



# Curriculum Newsletter – Spring Term 1 2026

Year 1



Please read this curriculum newsletter carefully, it explains what we will be covering this half term in all subjects.

## English

### **Speaking and Listening**

This term, we will continue to encourage children to speak articulately and in full sentences. There will be plenty of opportunities within the curriculum for the children to become confident speakers to different audiences. We will use 'Voice 21 Oracy' to help the children instigate, build on and challenge ideas in discussions, giving them the tools to express themselves clearly and respectfully.

### **Reading**

The children will continue to take part in daily phonics sessions to build their decoding skills and strengthen their understanding of sounds and words. They will also have opportunities to enjoy books together in class. Every week, your child will bring books home, please support them by listening to them read regularly and sharing stories together.

### **Writing**

This term, children will continue to focus on developing clear and careful letter formation, taking pride in the presentation of their writing. We will continue to use a range of books to inspire our lessons, giving children opportunities to write their own independent sentences. Children will practise key writing skills such as using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops correctly. We will also introduce new grammar skills, including using plurals ending in 'es' and learning how to identify questions in a text and forming a question mark independently.



## Maths

This term, we will be deepening the children's understanding of important mathematical concepts. We will be focusing on addition and subtraction within 20, as well as developing their knowledge of place value up to 50. The children will practise and secure key addition and subtraction facts, with particular emphasis on becoming fluent in recognising number bonds to 20. This will help them to confidently build and solve number sentences. Once this is secure, we will move on to exploring numbers from 20 to 50, including counting, reading and representing numbers within this range.



## Science

We will begin by learning about the season of winter, observing the weather, daylight hours and changes in the natural environment. Children will compare winter to autumn discussing how trees, plants and animals change as the seasons move on. Then, we will return to our animals topic. Children will learn about different types of animals and what they eat focusing on carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Through discussion, sorting activities investigations, they will develop an understanding of how animals' diets help them survive in their habitats.



## History

This term, we will be exploring local history, helping children develop their understanding of the past and how it connects to life today. The children will look at different aspects of our local area's history and compare what life was like in the past with the present. Through hands-on activities and discussions, they will learn key concepts such as 'old' and 'new' and begin to spot historical features in their surroundings. The children will also learn how to place events in chronological order by working with simple timelines.



## Art

This term, children will be focusing on printing and exploring different ways to create patterns and images. They will begin by learning about primary and secondary colours and how colours can be linked to different feelings and moods. They will experiment with mixing colours and talk about how certain colours make them feel. We will then explore shapes and printing, using different tools and everyday objects to create different shapes and textures. Then, the children will apply these skills by designing their own repeating patterns using a variety of shapes, prints and colours.



## Music

This term, we will be focusing on tempo and dynamics. The children will revisit and build on what they have learned previously, using this knowledge to help them compose and perform their own song. They will also have the opportunity to play tuned instruments, such as glockenspiels.



## RE

This term, we will be learning about a new religion – Islam. The children will explore what Islam is, the significance of the mosque and the importance of the Qur'an, Islam's holy book. Through stories, videos and discussions, the children will learn about key Islamic teachings and beliefs, including how Muslims understand the creation of the world.



## PSHE

This term in PSHE, our focus is 'healthy me'. Children will learn about what it means to be healthy and unhealthy and explore ways to look after their bodies. We will talk about how to keep ourselves clean, including good hygiene routines, as well as how to stay healthy through choices such as food, exercise and rest. Children will also learn about ways to keep themselves safe in everyday situations such as when crossing the road.



## PE

This term, our PE lessons will focus on two key topics, dance and send and return. Through these activities, children will develop physical skills, creativity and teamwork. In dance, pupils will explore the idea that dances often have themes or stories. Dance using body shapes to express ideas and emotions. During the topic send and return, Children will develop their ability to identify and use space effectively to safely throw and receive a ball. They will also practice playing cooperatively in simple competitive games, focusing on teamwork and communication.

PE days are now Tuesdays and Thursdays



## Computing

This term in Computing, children will be focusing on programming. They will learn how to follow and create simple sets of instructions, using appropriate instructional vocabulary such as forwards, backwards and turn. Children will practise debugging by finding and fixing simple mistakes in programs. They will also enjoy experimenting with BeeBots, giving them hands-on experience of programming through play.



## French

The children will use greetings such as "bonjour" and "au revoir". They will learn the days of the week as well as, the months of the year. French will be included throughout their daily activities such as, when answering the register or counting in French.

### Key dates:

Every Friday – 2:45pm Story and celebration time.

### Key information:

PE days are now Tuesdays and Thursdays

<b>Support resources:</b>	

(Please add links and support resources to help families understand the topics that will be covered in the half term and to help them complete tasks on the homework grid)

[NumBots | Motivational maths practice for schools and families.](#)