

Autumn 1 Topic Overview

Key Stage 1

Science

Children will explore physics through a range of hands-on experiments and practical investigations, making predictions, carrying out tests and observing what happens. They will learn how to record their findings using simple tables, drawings and written observations, developing their skills in collecting and communicating scientific results. Children will work collaboratively to discuss their findings and what they have discovered.

RE

Children will explore what it means to belong to a community of belief, learning about different places, practices and traditions. They will visit Lofthouse Church to discover how Christians worship and celebrate together, and how the church plays an important role within the local community. Children will consider what it means to belong.

Computing

Children will explore the technology they use in everyday life and learn how computers and digital devices help us. They will develop their logging-on skills and keyboard skills, practising how to use a keyboard confidently and safely.

History

Children will immerse themselves in a day of history to kick-start our exciting new topic, 'Who Were the Greatest Explorers?' Throughout the half term, children will learn about significant explorers, including Captain James Cook, Amelia Earhart and Neil Armstrong, exploring their journeys, achievements and the impact they had on our understanding of the world. Children will develop their map skills by exploring different maps and tracing the journeys of explorers, before venturing beyond Earth to investigate our solar system. We will explore what life is like in space, considering how astronauts live, work and travel, and compare life in space with life on Earth. Through hands-on activities and historical enquiry, children will develop an understanding of how exploration has changed over time and why these explorers are remembered today.

DT

In DT, we will be designing and making our own spaceships. We will first explore key features such as fins, the nose, windows and the body tube. We will then investigate how different materials, shapes and joining techniques can make a spaceship strong and stable before designing, building, testing and evaluating our creations.

PE

Indoor – Fundamentals:
Children develop basic movement skills such as running, jumping, balancing, and coordination through fun, active games and activities.

Outdoor – Team Building:
Pupils work together to complete challenges and games that promote communication, cooperation, and teamwork skills in an outdoor setting.

Maths

Year 1

This half term, Year 1 will be exploring numbers within 10, developing our number sense and learning to represent numbers in different ways, as well as finding one more and one less. We will learn through play, using resources such as playdough, building cubes and other practical resources.

Year 2

This half term, Year 2 will focus on place value, numbers to 100, and addition & subtraction. They will use practical resources, representations and problem-solving activities to build fluency and confidence, applying their learning to a range of mathematical challenges.

English

This half term, children will develop their writing skills through a range of exciting texts and experiences. We will focus on writing simple sentences correctly using the correct pencil grip, letter formation and writing on the line. We will focus on handwriting and spelling and encourage children to read their sentences back to ensure it makes sense.

Grammar - Year 1 will focus on building simple sentences, using capital letters and full stops, and beginning to use conjunctions such as *and* to join ideas.

Year 2 will build on this by using a wider range of conjunctions, exploring different sentence types, and using punctuation such as question marks, exclamation marks, and commas in lists.

Spelling – Children will continue to practice common exception words whilst also completing their weekly spellings (please see website)

Reading & Phonics

Read Write Inc. Phonics is taught for 30 minutes every day. During these sessions, children learn new sounds and practise identifying and using them in words to read fluently and accurately. They also learn to think about what is happening in a story and to write words that include taught sounds. Once children become confident, fluent readers, they move on to reading lessons that focus on developing comprehension skills, reading for pleasure, and building speed and fluency.

Reading at home has a huge impact on children's progress. Regular practice helps to reinforce learning from school, improve confidence, and develop a love of reading, giving children the skills they need to succeed across the curriculum.

Off Scheme: The Dragon Machine, Cinnamon

PSHE

Children will explore what it means to feel good, be themselves and enjoy positive experiences with others. Through *Little People, Big Dreams*, they will learn about Mae Jemison and how she followed her dreams. Children will also develop their understanding of online safety, exploring why having a healthy balance when using media and technology is important.