

This half term Year 1 are learning about:



English

In English, we will be learning the tale 'Leo and the Octopus' by Isabelle Marinov and Chris Nixon. This is a story about Leo who struggles to make sense of the world, but then one day Leo meets Maya the Octopus. The story highlights and explores how everyone is different, celebrating uniqueness and discussing the importance of inclusion. We will create 'This is me!' posters, letters of advice, factual descriptions, logbooks and scripts. We will look at a variety of non-fiction books to learn facts about octopuses. We will learn what a suffix and plural are and how to use them within our writing and how a verb changes when used in the third person. In Guided Reading, we will continue to develop fluency, recognising our tricky words, reading with expression and answering questions using what we have read. In Story Time, we will be reading a range of stories to excite and engage the children in a love of reading.

Mathematics



In Mathematics, we will look at identifying height and length and how to measure objects accurately using nonstandard units of measure. This may include cubes, sticks, paperclips, dice etc. We will explore comparing different heights, using words such as 'taller than', 'shorter than' and 'longer than'. We will then move onto counting within 40, developing understanding of the place value of numbers up to 40, and beginning to explore tens and ones when making numbers up to 40. We will look at finding one more and one less of numbers up to 40. After this, we will be looking at addition and subtraction word problems within 20. We will use resources to help us solve word problems before developing mental arithmetic and abstract skills such as drawings, whole part-part and the bar method for solving addition and subtraction problems.

History: The Great Fire of London

In History, we will be looking at The Great Fire of London. Children will look at photographs and illustrations to compare London today with London in 1666. They will then move onto finding out about the Great Fire of London from accounts written at the time. Finally, they will learn to distinguish between objects, writing and pictures as historical sources.

Science: Materials

In Science, children will be identifying and naming different everyday materials. They will look at everyday objects and identify which materials they are made from. They will begin to look at describing objects based on their properties and will start to look at sorting and grouping objects based on their properties. Finally, they will conduct an experiment based on the properties of materials.

Art: Printing

In Art, we will be looking at printing. Our focus artist will be Paul Klee. We will look at exploring different materials and how they print, how to make a print and how to ensure our print does not slide. We will then create a block printing picture in the style of Paul Klee using different objects to create our city-scene. Finally, we will evaluate our artwork to decide how we could improve it.

PE

In PE, we will be starting our new topic of Games. We will learn to travel with a ball in different ways, hitting and striking skills, and ball skills including rolling, bouncing and catching. The children will then apply this learning in a variety of different games, ensuring they use space and speed. Finally, they will play a variety of games, developing the skills of defending and attacking.

Key Vocabulary

This term, some of the words that we will be learning in Year 1 include:

- shorter/longer/taller
- shortest/longest/tallest
- properties
- attack/defend
- direction, up, down, left, right

Things to do at home:

- ❖ Regular reading with your child.
- ❖ Playing simple games to learn the tricky words found in their books.
- ❖ Play counting games within 100.

RE



The first RE topic is 'Special People'. During this topic, children will recognise who the special people are in their lives, the special helpers at church during Mass and recognise the stories of The Presentation and The Boy in the Temple. Next in RE, our topic is 'Meals'. During this topic, we will learn the story of The Last Supper and recognise and talk about actions, signs and symbols used within Mass. We will continue with our weekly Class Liturgical Prayer, where the children plan and lead worship in the classroom, as well as a weekly Lectio Divina from Mrs Forbes.

PSHE

In Circle Time, children will talk out about different people in our communities and how they are similar and different. We will also talk about different feelings and emotions and how to stay safe online. Mission Circle themes include the following: Epiphany, Baptism, Discipleship, Scripture, Humility and Diversity.

Music

In Music, we will be learning the song 'Round and Round' by Joanna Mangona. During this unit, the children will listen to and appraise a range of music, including film music, big band, jazz and Latin fusion as we travel around the world. We will learn to use instruments, following and copying the pulse of the song.