



Year 1 Newsletter

Summer 1 – 2025/2026



Phonics/Reading

Next half term, we will continue following the **Read Write Inc.** programme, focusing on mastering **Set 2 and Set 3 sounds**. This will enable the children to decode and spell a much wider range of complex words with increasing independence.

Regular reading at home remains vital; we encourage children to read and re-read their books to build fluency, expression, and accuracy. This growing confidence will support them in understanding more challenging texts and help develop their comprehension skills as they progress.



Key Dates

14th April—Oracy Workshop

20th April—Great Athletes Visit and Sponsored Circuit

7th May—Story Sandwich Family Learning Morning

Writing

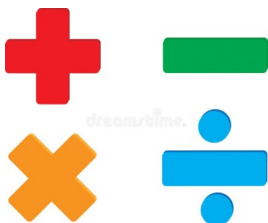
This term, we are embarking on an exciting journey to Africa through the classic story *Handa's Surprise*. The children will explore the vibrant setting and diverse range of fruits and animals featured in the book. We will focus on descriptive writing, using adjectives to bring Handa's journey to life, and practice retelling the story in our own words.



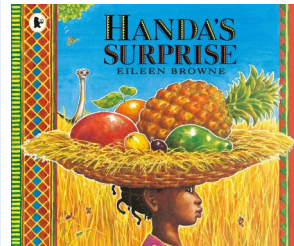
Talk for Writing

Maths

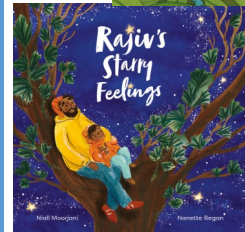
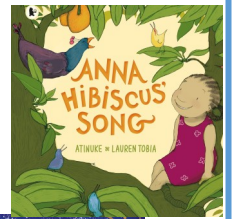
This term covers a range of practical topics: **multiplication and division** (grouping and sharing), **fractions** (halves and quarters), and **position and direction**. We will also be learning to tell the **time** to the hour and half-hour and identifying different denominations of **money**.



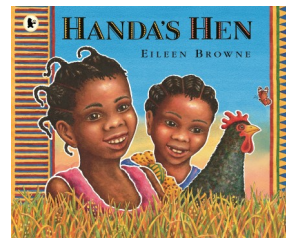
Whole Class Reading



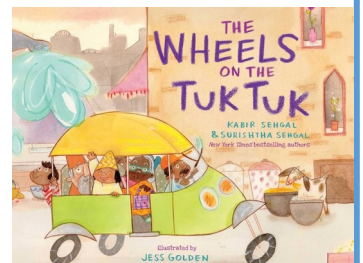
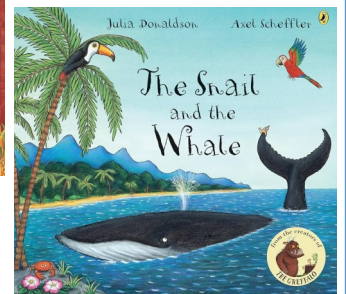
Class Read



Suggested Books



We're Going on a Bear Hunt
Michael Rosen Helen Oxenbury



PSHE

Our PSHE lessons will focus on **Relationships**. We will discuss what makes a good friend, how to resolve conflicts peacefully, and the importance of respecting others' feelings and personal space. The children will also explore



different types of family units and identify the people who care for them and keep them safe.

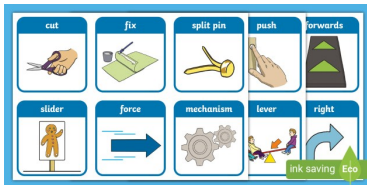
Geography

Our Geography unit takes us across the globe to answer the question: "**Where is India?**" Children will use maps, globes, and digital tools like Google Earth to locate India in relation to the UK. We will explore the country's diverse landscapes, from the bustling cities to the majestic Himalayas. We will also look at the similarities and differences between life in a local town and life in a village in India.



DT

In DT, we will be becoming young engineers as we explore **mechanical systems**. The children will learn how simple mechanisms like sliders, levers, and hinges can be used to create movement in a product. They will apply these skills to design and make their own moving posters or cards, evaluating how well their mechanisms work and how they could be improved.



PE

In PE, our focus shifts to "Real Gym." The children will work on developing their **shapes** (such as tuck, pike, and star) and exploring different ways of **traveling** across the floor and over equipment with control and balance. The children will learn, develop and apply shapes and travel on the floor and apparatus through focused skill development, thematic warm-ups and games.



RE

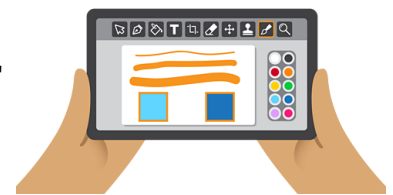
In RE, our focus is on **Judaism**, specifically the celebration of **Shabbat**. The children will learn about the significance of this day of rest and the special traditions involved, such as the lighting of candles, the sharing of Challah bread, and the Havdalah ceremony. We will explore why



these traditions are important to Jewish families and how they foster a sense of community and reflection.

Computing

The children will be unleashing their inner artists in Computing as we explore **digital painting**. Using various software tools, they will learn how to choose colours, change brush sizes, and use different effects to create digital masterpieces. We will compare digital art with traditional painting, discussing the unique possibilities—and the "undo" button!—that technology offers.



Phonics Screening Check

In June, all Year 1 children will take part in the national PSC. This is a short, child-friendly assessment to see how the children are progressing.

- Spot the "Special Friends"**: Encourage your child to look for digraphs (two letters making one sound, like 'sh' or 'ch') before they try to blend the word.
- "Alien" Words**: The check includes "pseudo-words" (nonsense words) labelled with a picture of an alien. Practicing these at home helps children focus purely on decoding rather than guessing.
- Daily Practice**: Just 5–10 minutes of reading their phonics book each night makes a huge difference in their confidence and fluency.

How to help...

Reading: Share books set in different countries or stories featuring animals to support our English and Geography topics.

Maths in the real world: Practise telling the time at home and encourage your child to identify and count coins when shopping.



Geography: If you have an atlas or a globe, help your child find India and the UK, and talk about the different oceans and continents between them.