

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/recommended-reads/year-1/>

Science

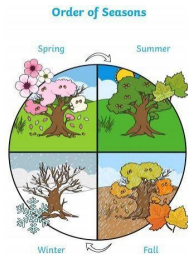
This half term we are learning about *weather and the seasons*. Children will learn that there are four seasons in the UK – spring, summer, autumn and winter – and each has its own weather and changes in nature. They will explore what makes each season special and practise recognising them from pictures and observations. We will explore the key features:

Spring – the weather gets warmer and blossoms appear on some plants.

Summer – the warmest season, with the most daylight.

Autumn – when the weather cools down and some trees lose their leaves.

Winter – the coldest season, with the least amount of daylight.



Geography

This half term in Geography we are learning about *maps and places*. Children will find out that a map is a picture showing land, seas, roads, towns and other features. They will learn that they live in **Berkshire, England** (part of the United Kingdom) and explore the difference between **urban** areas (towns and cities) and **rural** areas (countryside). The children will practise using maps and images to spot physical features (like rivers, fields and countryside) and human features (like houses, roads, shops and schools). They will also learn to use simple directional words such as *near, far, left and right*. They will create their own simple map of the school grounds.



Art

This half term in Art we are focusing on *observational drawing*. Children will learn that drawings are made with pencils, crayons or pens (not paint), and will begin to explore **tone** (light and dark) and **texture** (how something looks or feels). They will practise describing and experimenting with tone and texture using different materials such as pencils, charcoal and pastels. The children will also learn that an **observational drawing** is when you draw something you can see in front of you. They will practise this skill by drawing natural objects such as pine cones and leaves.

At home you can: Collect leaves or natural objects for your child to draw, encourage them to look closely at details like lines, patterns or shading or try simple drawing activities together using different pencils or crayons.

PE

This half term in PE we are focusing on *coordination and balance*. Children will practise moving with control through different footwork activities and develop their ability to balance on one leg. They will explore these skills through fun stories, songs and games – such as going on pretend bike rides and pirate adventures!

At home you can: Play simple movement games like “hop to the tree” or “walk heel-to-toe” or encourage your child to try balancing games outdoors, such as walking along a low wall or line on the ground.

RE

This half term in RE, we will be focussing on the topic New Life by exploring the question *How is a new child welcomed?* The children will learn about baptism and how Christians dedicate a child to God, as well as how Humanists of a non-religious background celebrate new life. The children will also learn about fostering and how a child might be welcomed into a new family.

At home you can: Talk about ways you have welcomed new life into your family, and how this was celebrated, or read or share stories about the arrival of new siblings.



Computing

In computing, we will be learning about technology and how it helps us in our everyday lives. The children will practise using devices safely and responsibly, and will develop confidence using simple programs and tools. We will also discuss how to look after equipment and make sensible choices online.



PSHE

This half term in PSHE we are starting our new Jigsaw unit. Children will be introduced to their *Jigsaw Journals* and the *Jigsaw Charter*, which helps everyone understand how to work and play safely together. They will talk about rights and responsibilities, making good choices, and understanding consequences. The children will also explore what makes them special, how to help everyone feel safe in class, and ways to keep themselves safe too.

At home you can: Talk about rules at home and why they are important, celebrate what makes your child special or encourage your child to think about how their actions can help others feel safe and happy.

How to help...

Please read daily with your child every day, this supports your child in all areas of their learning.

Use the world around you to explore maths, looking at shapes and numbers.

