



Curriculum Newsletter

Spring: Year 1

Our Christian value this term is:

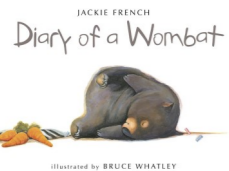


Phonics: Fluency and speedy reading is our big focus this term, in addition to consolidating and embedding RWInc Set 2 and Set 3 sounds. Your child is due to take the phonics screening check in June and this helps us to see whether your child has made the expected progress. Further information will follow.

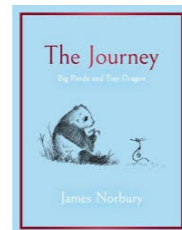
Spelling: A list of words will be sent home each week for your child to practise reading and spelling. Each Friday, we will have a spelling check activity, whereby I can see how children are remembering these. These words will be 'common exception words' and are the words that children are expected to be able to spell by the end of Year 1.



Reading together

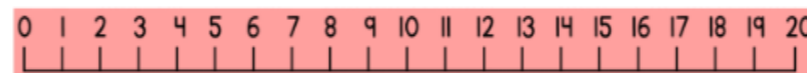


As always, we will be enjoying some lovely key texts together, some of which will shape our literacy work and some to simply enjoy together.



Mathematics

We will be looking closely at place value within 20, counting forwards and backwards regularly to 20 and understanding how teen numbers are made up of "10 and a bit more." We will consolidate and extend our understanding of addition and subtraction, however this term, with numbers to 20 and later to numbers to 50, whereby we will make numbers with tens and ones and solve problems with these greater numbers.



Using lots of practical resources, we will be comparing length, height and measuring mass and capacity too.

We will be revisiting 3d shapes and their properties, exploring 3d shapes practically in our continuous provision and using mathematical language to describe them.

Computing



Children in Class One are going to have an allocated slot each week to access our ICT suite in school. Here, we will be developing our confidence in word processing and typing, learning to type letters with more speed using the keyboard and familiarising ourselves with the functions of the keyboard. We will learn how to save our work.

We will begin to understand what algorithms are and how these precise instructions help to implement programs on digital devices. We will create and debug simple programs too, using the computers, iPads and BeeBots.



As part of Safer Internet Day, we will be speaking to the children about how to use the internet safely and encouraging safe, responsible and positive use of the ever expanding technological world!

Writing

It is important that the children in Year 1 grow in confidence in their independent writing and show a willingness to simply have a go, without the direction of a teacher. Fundamentally, writing in Year 1 is all about thinking of what to write, composing a sentence orally, sequencing sentences to create a narrative and re-reading to check it makes sense. Our non-negotiables are capital letters, finger spaces and punctuation too! We are hoping to create some writing linked to our chosen stories and texts including The Diary of a Wombat and The Koala who Could.

We will be continuing to develop our handwriting with daily opportunities for direct, discrete teaching. We are perfecting our letter formation of both upper and lower case letters and making sure our letters are consistent in size. We will begin to look closely at our ascending and descending letters and how these are positioned in relation to the lines in our workbooks.



Checklist: caterpillar
✓ start at the caterpillar's head
✓ curl around the body



Science

Through our play and observations, we will continue to explore our senses and there will be lots of opportunities for children to verbalise what they can see, hear, smell, taste and touch. Our topic launch of "I'm in Class One; Get me out of here!" we encourage lots of sensory play and challenge! Also, as we venture into Spring, we will be using our senses to make observations of the changing season and noticing how our natural world alters before our eyes. We are going to look closely at types of materials this term, categorising objects and describing the simple properties of everyday materials.



As we begin to learn about Australia this term, we will look at some common Australian animals and identify if they are herbivores, carnivores or omnivores. Meg's Eggs story book, which was enjoyed last half term lends itself well to this too, so we may revisit this much loved book again.

Religious Education



What makes some places sacred to believers?

This unit will allow us to make connections with our previous learning and explore how places of worship connect with beliefs and practises from different faiths. We will look at 'sacred' and 'holy' places and how it is important to show respect for other people's precious, sacred spaces and belongings. We will compare places of worship across different faiths too.

Who made the world?: We will be retelling the story of creation and recognising that 'Creation' is the beginning of the big story of the Bible. We will be exploring what this story tells Christians about God and how Christians how their thanks to God for the Creation. Children will develop an understanding of Christian beliefs of God creating the universe and God's unique relationships with human beings, as their Creator.

Expeditions:

"I'm in Class One; Get me out of here!"



Our PE days are: **Tuesday and Thursday**. Please note that these days are new and are effective from **Week Beginning 9th January 2023**

Please look at your child's **Home Learning** book for ways to support their education—this includes our minimum expectations as well as lots of ideas for additional activities. **This will be sent out next week.**

History

The start of the new year will encourage to think about our futures and what this might look like. Children will recount details from their own past and see how their lives have changed year on year. Looking ahead to the future seems a vast concept for our little ones to grasp but their little minds are full of ambition as they think about what their own lives might look like in years to come!



King Charles' coronation in May this year will also allow our children to understand changes within their own living memory. They will witness the ceremony that reflects the monarch's role today, whilst remembering the late Queen Elizabeth.

We will be recounting details all about the British navigator and explorer, James Cook. We will use pictures and historical stories and factual information to find answers to simple questions about his quest of the Endeavour, as he set sail through the South Pacific. We will learn all about his journey to the east coast of Australia, his discoveries and some of his challenges!

Physical Education

During the first half term, we will be concentrating on gymnastics and ball skills.



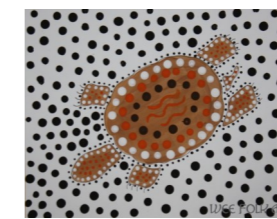
In gymnastics we will be exploring and developing gymnastic actions and using both low and larger apparatus. Skills including jumping rolling, balancing and travelling will be developed to create sequences with different levels, directions and shapes.



During our ball skills unit, children will be exploring fundamentals skills such as throwing and catching, rolling, hitting a target, dribbling with both hands and feet and kicking a ball. They will be working independently, in pairs and small groups.

Art and Design

We will be learning all about the work of the Aboriginals, studying the symbols, styles and stories of the enduring, Australian art form. We will use our learning to create our own drawings and paintings.



We will create a simple moving picture to tell a simple, familiar story and will also be thinking all about healthy snack ideas for the crew on board the Endeavour, as James Cook replenished supplies of fruit and vegetables for his crew, preventing scurvy.

Geography



James Cook became a master at map making during his time in the Royal Navy. We will be trying to do the same, as we use world maps, globes and atlases to see James' journey and have a go at creating our own simple maps.

Some children have begun doing this freely in our provision, so building on this is following their interests too. Using simple compass directions and recognising basic features of maps will also help develop our map making and geographical skills. We will make comparison of Australia and the United Kingdom too.

Music

We are going to be learning a new song, 'In to the groove', which will demonstrate lots of different style of music to us.

We will also continue to sing lots of familiar rhymes and actions sounds, whereby we can perform, share and celebrate in class too.

French

We will continue to learn and embed knowing some colours in French.

We will enjoy learning some familiar nursery rhymes in French, using animated videos, actions and a multi-sensory approach to help us.

Twinkl, Twinkl Little Star and Old McDonald are just a few!

We will also be learning how to name the seasons in French, using this language experience to compliment and enhance our knowledge of the world around us.

Additional information

Throughout the term, we will be learning all about certain calendar events, such as Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. We will chat openly about who we love and why and what makes people special to us. We will be learning new skills to create pieces of art linked to these events too.

National Number Day will encourage lots of mathematical play and exploration and our approaching class assembly about loving our planet will help us to think about how our actions can help the wider world. Lunar New Year will help us to think about different cultural celebrations and taste some Chinese foods.