



Curriculum Newsletter - Autumn Term 1

Welcome to our curriculum newsletter!

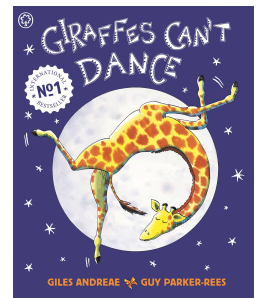
Please find below information about what your child will be learning about this term. You will notice that each term has 3 key concepts. The learning is designed to explore these concepts in class so that children develop their life skills as well as their academic knowledge. If you have any questions about the learning this term, please feel free to speak to your child's class teacher.

Lemurs - Year R

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: Diversity, Success, Community

Our overall topic for Term 1 is **All About Me**.

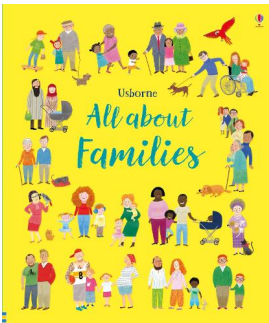
In **Literacy** this term, we will complete our first Drawing Club on the story 'The Colour Monster'. Children will have the opportunity to really get to know this text and will use it to support them to understand their feelings and emotions as they begin their journey at school. We will also be reading 'Giraffes Can't Dance' and thinking about what we might find a bit tricky and how we can overcome challenges. We will also begin phonics lessons this term and will start learning single 'phoneme' sounds once the children are settled.



In **Maths** we will be looking at sorting, matching and grouping objects in different ways as well as learning to recognise and create simple patterns and talk about and compare size, mass and capacity.

In **RE**, we will be answering the question 'What makes us special?'. Children will explore the different ways people are special; using stories, discussions and creative activities to learn about what makes themselves, the people around them and those in the community special.

In **PSHE**, our topic is 'Being Me in my World'. Children will look at what makes us unique and special and explore what it means to be a part of our school community.



Our **Understanding of the World** focus this term will aim to answer the questions 'Who am I?' and 'Are all families the same?'. We will be using the text 'All about Families' to explore what a family is, how they can be different and what different roles we have within our families. Children will also have the opportunity to discuss past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members and they will use their critical thinking skills to learn about similarities and differences between themselves and others. Children will also begin to describe what they hear, feel and see using their senses in their natural environment and will be encouraged to observe the changing seasons of the natural world around them.

In **Art**, we will be exploring self portraits and children will learn how to create images of themselves in a variety of ways, using a range of mediums. We will also create pebble portraits to show who is in our family.

Our **Physical Development** focus for this term will be on using a programme called 'Write Dance' to develop children's gross and fine motor skills. This approach involves children learning specific movements to music which will support their balance, coordination, flexibility and stamina in order for them to be physically ready for the process of mark making and writing.



Finally in **Music**, we will be thinking about how we can use our bodies to make music as well as listening to and exploring different styles of music through nursery rhymes and action songs.

Otters - Year 1

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: Equality, Freedom and Beauty

This term Otters class will be delving into the story of The Bog Baby by Jeanne Willis, about a tiny creature who lives in a magic pond and is found by two small sisters. They make him their secret but bog baby is a wild thing and the girls have to make a decision. We will be writing around the text and applying our writing rules; repeating our sentences as we write, using capital letters, finger spaces and full-stops, and applying our phonics knowledge to spell words.



In Maths we will be exploring number and place value to 10, counting using [one-to-one correspondence](#) and using ten frames to represent numbers. We will be comparing numbers using the terms greater than, less than and as many as. We will also be focussing on number bonds using the [part-whole model](#) and learning about addition and subtraction within ten. We plan to do lots of outdoor learning to support this using natural materials to help us.

In RE we will be considering the question - How did the world begin? The children will explore what creation is and what Christian, Jewish and Hindu people think about it. They will move onto considering what creation stories suggest to people about God and finally where the world came from.

In History we will learn about communication in World War 1. We will be focussing on questions such as: Why were messenger pigeons so important during the First World War? How did children know that a war was happening in 1916? As well as - How did other animals contribute to the war effort?

In PE we will be taking part in a unit called Hit, Catch, Run in which we will learn how to hit objects with our hands or a bat. track and retrieve a rolling ball and throw and catch a variety of balls and objects. In Gymnastics we will use simple gymnastics actions and shapes, and apply basic strength to gymnastic actions. We will also begin to carry apparatus safely.

In Science we will be identifying and naming human body parts. We will then move onto exploring our 5 senses through research and experimenting.

In DT this term we will be exploring structures. The children will be working on many different skills in order to construct a Windmill. They will be following instructions to cut and assemble the supporting structure of a windmill. Finally making functioning turbines and axles which are assembled into a main supporting structure.

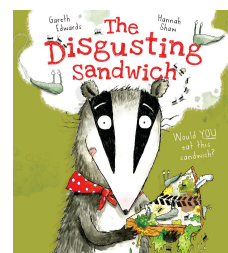
In Computing we will be exploring algorithms. Specifically how to follow and devise a simple algorithm, to test and debug, as well as predicting the outcome of an algorithm.

Music is taken from the Charanga programme entitled- Hey You! It is written in an Old-School Hip Hop style for children to learn about the differences between pulse, rhythm and pitch and to learn how to rap and enjoy it in its original form. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other Old-School Hip Hop tunes.

Meerkats - Year 2

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: pride, community, belonging

Our core text this term is *The Disgusting Sandwich* by Gareth Edwards and Hannah Shaw. The children will be using this story as a stimulus for creative instruction writing on 'How to make a disgusting sandwich'. They will also learn to write in the role of the ever-hungry badger and use adventurous adjectives to describe different ingredients, as well as plan, write and edit their own story about a delicious food item that gradually becomes ruined through a sequence of unfortunate events! We will emphasise the basics of reading and writing - sounding out to read unfamiliar words, correct pencil grip, letter formation and sequencing sentences - as well as challenge the children through their choice of vocabulary and sentence structure.



In Maths we will be exploring number and [place value](#) to and from 100. The children will learn to identify the place value of each digit within 2-digit numbers and use their knowledge of tens and ones to [partition](#) numbers in different ways. Later in the term, we will be adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers within 100 using Base 10 resources, pictorial methods and expanded written methods. In order to do this successfully, the children will have a secure understanding of the fact that ten 'one' are the same as one 'ten'.

In History, we will be uncovering who the greatest 'history maker' is. The children will be discussing what it means to 'make history' and why certain people or events are commemorated. We will be focussing especially on Guy Fawkes, as well as a range of influential people from Hatshepsut in Ancient Egypt to Malala Yousafzai in the modern day.

Our PSHE learning focuses on Being Me in My World. We will share and discuss our worries and develop strategies to cope with them by sharing them with the people that we trust. We will also learn about our rights, and that we have the right to belong in our classroom, to be healthy, to be happy and to learn.

In PE we will be taking part in Attack, Defend, Shoot. The children will learn to send and receive a ball with their foot, and to control their bodies whilst using equipment. We will also be learning Dance. Here the children will begin to use facial expressions to show emotion and begin to make spatial and dynamic choices in their work.

'Why do we need to give thanks?' is our big question for RE this term. The children will be learning about why and how people from different religions give thanks, with a focus on Christianity (harvest festival) and Hinduism (puja).

Science in Meerkats focuses on animals, including humans. The children will learn about what animals need to survive, and how to classify them into groups based on this.

In Computing we will use iProgram to learn all about algorithms. By the end of the unit, the children will be able to combine images and text to create a simple animation.

Our Music unit is entitled 'Hands, Feet, Heart'. The children will learn to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, as well as appraise a wide variety of different music.

In Art, we will be learning about tone and texture in drawing. The children will experiment with a range of materials to create marks and tones, and control their shading to create tone. They will learn to sketch simple shapes lightly so that changes can be made, and refine their drawing by building up the outline of an object.

Rhinos - Year 3

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: pride, responsibility, sustainability



This term Year 3 will be exploring alternative traditional tales, our core text will be *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by John Scieszka. The children will jump straight into the role of news reporters in order to get to the bottom of Mr Wolf's activities on that day, before writing a news report based on witness statements from the key characters involved. Later in the term, we will immerse ourselves in other alternatives to traditional tales, with the final aim to create our own version of a well-known tale. Throughout the term the children will continue to build on their reading skills, this will include comprehension skills building.

In Maths we will be investigating numbers up to 1000, with a focus on the [value](#) of each digit. The children will learn how to [compose and decompose](#) numbers, compare, order and look for patterns. Later in the term, we will be mastering simple addition and subtraction before moving on to add and subtract up to two 3-digit numbers where exchanging is required, using a variety of methods and resources.

In History the children will use their enquiring minds to answer our overarching question: What does it take to be a great explorer? We will be learning about the exploits of a range of famous explorers such as Ranulph Fiennes, Amy Johnson and Christopher Columbus. The children will be encouraged to identify, suggest reasons and explain challenges faced by the explorers, qualities best suited for explorers and their achievements.

Our PSHE learning will focus on identifying different feelings and being able to identify if other people are feeling this way. In addition, we will consider how our actions might affect others and how we can face new challenges. We will be discussing the need for rules and how they relate to rights and responsibilities.

In R.E. this term we will be answering the question: *What makes us human?* The children will explore spirituality and soul with a focus on Buddhism. They will look into prayers and rituals and how these are connected to spirituality.

In Science our focus will be on biology. We will be developing our scientific minds this term by investigating the human body as well as those of animals. Children will identify bones and explain functions of different parts. Towards the end of the term we will be looking at nutrition and diet.

In PE this term, we will be focusing on rounders and cricket.

For Computing, we will be developing our computational thinking and programming animations with Scratch. The children will understand that algorithms and programs can involve repetition. They will also learn to program a sequence of instructions that create visual effects.

In DT we will be exploring seasonal ingredients. The children will taste and investigate the benefits of eating local and seasonally. The end project will be to create a sweet or savoury tart.

In Music, the learning is focused around one song: Let Your Spirit Fly. The material presents an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked.

French will have a focus on the foundations such as phonics and early core vocabulary. The children will learn greetings, counting and numbers as part of this.

Penguins - Year 4

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: community, tradition, resilience



Year 4 will be reading *The Accidental Prime Minister* by Tom McLaughlin. We will immerse ourselves in lots of descriptive language and exciting vocabulary, helping us to write a detailed description of one of the main characters and our own version of the next part of the book. Finally, we will be learning the skills needed to write a persuasive speech much like many activists and world leaders. We will have the opportunity to present our speeches in order to win votes from our peers!

In maths we will begin by counting in 1000s, 100s, 10s and 1s as well as securing our understanding of [place value](#) of numbers to 10,000. Using our reasoning skills, we will compare and order numbers and practise recognising number patterns and learn how to [round](#) numbers to support us when estimating. Next, we will focus on adding and subtracting numbers within 10,000, including renaming, using mental strategies and finding [differences](#) between values.

In our history lessons, Penguin class will focus on local history and answer the question: What is the significance of Lullingstone Villa? We will study history from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality.

PSHE will focus on the importance of rules in and out of the classroom as well as making responsible choices. We will explore the value of being part of a class team. Knowing that as we grow older we have more responsibilities and that behaviour can result in rewards or consequences

Our PE lessons will focus on cricket learning different stances and hitting in different directions. In rounders this term we will focus on different roles and simple tactics in a game situation.

In computing this term the focus will be on programming, developing computational thinking and creating programs with. Children will have the opportunity to design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals.

As scientists solving real life problems, we will develop our enquiry skills to identify, sort and group animals into categories based on their features.

In art, our focus is on drawing and printing. The children will learn to use tone to create a 3D effect in drawings, as well as planning a mixed-media composition which they will develop into a print.

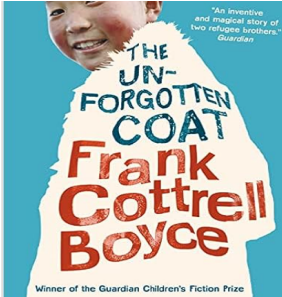
'Are all religions equal?' is our focus question in RE this term. The children will be looking at the connections between different religious worldviews, comparing how people understand God. Throughout the unit, the children will learn how to ask questions and talk respectfully about religious worldviews.

In music, our focus will be to develop notation skills as we look at how music can bring us closer together.

The children will learn how to present themselves in French, describing how old they are and where they live. They will also revisit the basics of pronunciation and accent.

Lions - Year 5

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: oppression, success and duty.



Over this term, Lions will be following the story of two refugee brothers from Mongolia who are determined to fit in with their classmates while they apply for UK citizenship. We will be using the text for our guided reading and English learning. We will explore a wide range of vocabulary and figurative language that we can then use to make our writing thrilling and imaginative.

In Maths our focus will be on numbers to 1 000 000. Our objectives will be to learn about [place value](#) and addition and subtraction of numbers to 1 000 000. The children will learn the importance of place value within numbers, and how we can use this to compare and add and subtract larger numbers. We will also be learning the skills needed to round those larger numbers to 1 000 000.

History this term, the children will learn about Britain and why it once ruled the largest empire that the world has ever seen. This will include the establishment, expansion and ultimate decline of this empire. The children will also learn about the significance of the Commonwealth in the world today.

During our science lessons we will be investigating forces. Children will build upon their knowledge of friction to find out about air resistance and water resistance. As part of this learning they will develop their scientific enquiry skills when planning and carrying out investigations. Towards the end of the term we will also learn about the force of gravity.

For our PSHE we will be thinking about our ambitions and what we want to achieve in the year ahead. We will also be thinking about our learning and our responsibilities as students in year 5!

Our PE sessions will focus on Dance and Cricket to develop children's agility and hit, throw and catching skills.

In computing we will learn some very important information about how to stay safe online and the duties that we all have as digital citizens. We will predominantly be focusing on programming in this term where children will learn to develop their computational thinking and learn to program animations using the software Scratch.

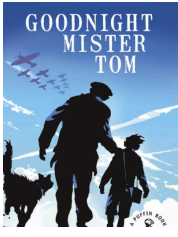
In RE our overarching question is "Why do people have to stand up for what they believe in?" We will think about religious freedom, the children will use historical and modern-day examples of people, such as Guy Fawkes, who have fought for their beliefs to discuss controversial issues.

In D.T will explore circuits and motors, making electrical doodlers. Children will learn how to make circuits with a range of components before creating a 'doodler' which will move a pen/pencil around the paper making doodles.

Lions will be learning about melody and harmony in music whilst exploring the question: "How does music bring us together?"

Dolphins - Year 6

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: Pride, Democracy and Community



Year 6 will open the year with a trip back in time to learn about the Battle of Britain and its implications on the war and our local area. Children will investigate numerical and written evidence to explain and justify why Hitler had to defeat the British RAF, explain the significance of the battle and link the significance to other key historical events.

Dolphins will link their English learning to their history by reading Goodnight Mr Tom. This text will allow children to write narratives, letters and political speeches based on the text and the events happening at the time. Reading will involve inferring, predicting and decoding new vocabulary based on the text also.

Maths sees the children develop and deepen their place value knowledge as well as working with the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Our first term in science will see Dolphins investigate living things and their habitats. Children will be learning about how animals adapt to their environment, how we group and classify creatures as well learn about the man who first began to order and classify species, Carl Linnaeus.

Our focus in PE this term will be cricket and dance.

In RE we will be exploring why religion looks different around the world. Children will consider how culture, tradition, migration and interpretation can affect how some religious practices are observed.

PSHE will see children looking forward to the year ahead and setting goals, developing ambitions and learning how to work towards a common goal. We explore the ideas of cause and effect - what consequences our actions have, as well as how we can support and help others to achieve their goals.

In music children will listen to and appraise songs in different styles, all tied in to our theme of 'happy'. They will develop their musical history, listening skills, singing, playing and performing skills.

Computing will expose the children to the world of computer programming and coding. They will investigate code, write code, test code and debug code.

Our art will focus on creative photography this term. Dolphins will have the opportunity to explore creative photographic techniques, create new images through photomontage and apply digital photography to art design, enhancing their skills in composition and editing.

French links nicely with our history as the theme for French this term is World War 2. Children will be developing their phonological skills whilst learning facts about WW2 in French then writing and speaking them. There is an opportunity for children to write, speak and listen in French linked to being an evacuee in the countryside during WW2.

Lots of cool learning is taking place in Year 6 this term which the children will love!