

Phonics

In phonics, the children, having been assessed, will be taught in groups appropriate to the level they are currently at. The lessons focus on the various sounds they need to learn and reading books containing words with the sounds they have already learnt. Children will also read with their teacher and other adults in the year group.

How can I support at home?

The children will bring home book wallets with their reading log and reading book(s). Books are changed approximately every 3 days in school. The aim is for you to read with your child every day at home and to record this in their reading log. This support is invaluable in your child reaching their full potential with reading, daily practice is key. Please make sure your child has their reading book in school everyday.

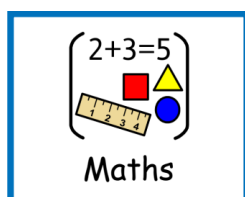


Talk for Writing

In our Talk For Writing unit this half term, we will be looking at the story of the Enormous Turnip, learning the repetitive pattern of the story. The children will learn a reduced version of the story and will practise writing the sentences they will need to finally write their own version of the story with different vegetables and animals. We will introduce using simple adjectives to add description to our stories.

How can I support at home?

It would be helpful if you are able to share at home any stories that have a similar repeating pattern. Lots of children's stories are written in this way, where the story builds by the same thing happening over and over again, for example: The Gingerbread Man, Three Little Pigs, as well as new classics by Julia Donaldson like A Squash and a Squeeze.



Maths

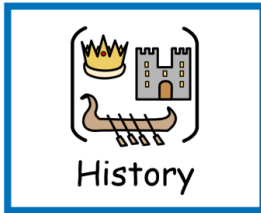
Initially in maths, we will be focusing on building the children's basic maths skills of counting forwards and backwards accurately to 10 and learning number bonds to and within 10. We will be using concrete materials to aid this learning, allowing children to physically count and sort objects before then ensuring children are able to form their written numbers correctly.

How can I support at home?

Any additional practice you are able to do at home with counting objects will be beneficial. Counting as you go up and down the stairs, counting toys, cutlery or anything else at home. All of this helps children to become more familiar with number and will consolidate work we are doing at school.

For parent videos on our Maths methods, [please click here](#).

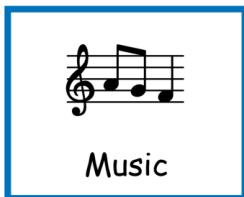
History



In history this half term we will be learning about what life was like for our grandparents when they were children. We will have a visitor in school who will talk to the children about her life growing up, using outside toilets and going to school in the 1950s. We will talk about the similarities and differences between their childhood today and what it was like back then.

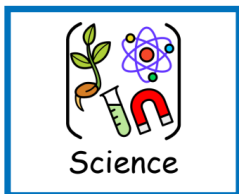
If you have an older family member who would be willing to come in and talk about their experiences growing up please speak to your child's class Teacher.

Music



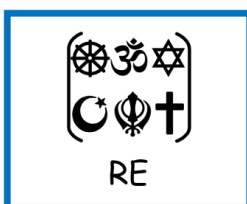
We will learning about pulse and rhythm, the children will be using their bodies, with clapping hands and stamping feet, to make the rhythm of their names and will then move onto using simple instruments to explore this further.

Science



We will start the term with the first part of our 'Animals Including Humans' topic, looking at humans and our senses, investigating how we use them and how they work. We will then be looking at the seasons and observing the changes from Summer into Autumn and then into Winter. We will talk about the weather and changes in the length of days.

Religious Education

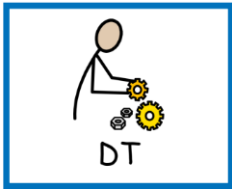


In RE our year starts with a topic on 'How did the World begin?'. We will look at what creation means with regards to the natural world and learning about various creations stories from the Christian and Hindu world views. We will also talk about respect for what other people think and believe.

PE



In PE, we will be taking part in multi-skills and working on developing our fundamental skills. We will also take part in a brand new "Jungle Dance" unit, using sounds of the jungle to build dances and work on our control and balance.



Design Technology

In DT we will start by making windmills, we will consider how to make a stable structure, design our windmills and then construct our own. We will be teaching the children how to evaluate their work, looking at what improvements could be made. Additionally in the first half term, we will be completing our food unit, creating fruit smoothies, looking at healthy options and choosing which fruit to include.



Computing

In computing, we will be programming robots. We will be learning how to issue commands to make the robot move in different directions. We will learn how to predict how a robot will move by looking at the commands we can give.

Upcoming Dates

Enriching your child's learning:

MK Museum is a great place to visit with your child, giving them the opportunity to experience what life was like in the past through engaging and hands-on exhibits.

[Milton Keynes Museum – Where History Comes to Life](#)

Additional Information

For more year group information, please visit the class pages on our website.

<https://www.portfieldsprimaryschool.org/children/class-pages>

