

### Phonics

In phonics, the children, having been assessed in December, will move groups as appropriate in January to accommodate the level they are currently working at. The lessons will continue to 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 bring home book wallets with their reading log and reading book(s). Books are changed approximately every 3 or 4 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.

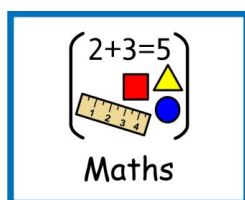


### Talk for Writing

In our Talk For Writing unit this half term, we will be looking at the story of Handa's Surprise, learning about how a journey tale is written. 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 fruits and animals. We will introduce using simple time conjunctions to add sequencing to our stories.

### How can I support at home?

It would be helpful if you are able to share at home any stories that are about journeys or are set in a different country. The story is set in Africa with African animals playing a major role in the story. Looking at a map of the world to see where the story is set and talking about the different animals that they might encounter in Africa.



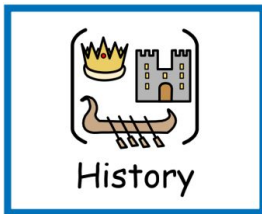
### Maths

In maths, we will be returning to our place value topic but extending our knowledge, working with numbers up to 20. We will continue to use concrete materials to aid this learning. We will then move again to addition and subtraction using these slightly larger numbers.

### How can I support at home?

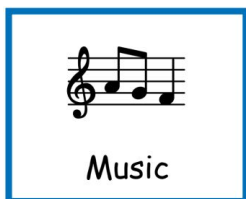
Any additional practice you are able to do at home with using numbers to 20. Counting backwards and forwards and looking at one more and one less. All of this helps children to become more familiar with number and will consolidate work we are doing at school.

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



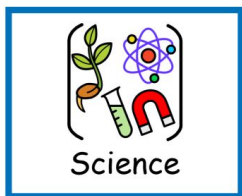
### History

In history this half term we will be learning about the Greatest Explorers. We will look at what it means to be an explorer and then learn about the lives and achievements of great explorers in history such as Captain Cook, discovering Australia, Roald Amundsen and Captain Scott reaching the South Pole and finally a more modern-day example - Sunita Williams as a space explorer!



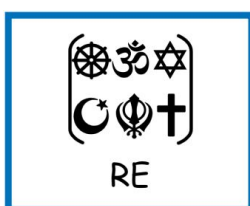
### Music

We will learning about vocal and body sounds, in our topic 'By the Sea'. The children will be learning about how musics can represent an environment and how this can change. They will be using simple instruments to represent the sounds of the seaside.



### Science

We will start the term looking at the second part of our unit on everyday materials. Learning about which materials can be recycled and also choosing materials to be fit for a purpose - we will be designing and making our own paper aeroplanes to test. This will be followed by a further look at seasonal changes, observing the gradual changes from winter to spring, how this affects the local area and how the number of hours of daylight varies throughout the year.



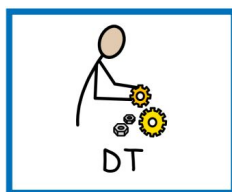
### Religious Education

In RE our topic is 'Why should we care for others?'. The unit considers how different world views tackle caring for others and why it is deemed important. We will look at the topic from Sikh, Islamic, Jewish, Christian and Humanist viewpoints. We will also look at more modern day examples of people caring for others, using the example of Mo Salah, donating large amounts of his earnings to charity.



### PE

In PE, we will be working on our ball skills during our outdoor PE sessions. We will be bouncing, dribbling and catching. Our indoor PE session will be gymnastics, where we will learn to perform a rocket, star and moon jump, and learn a variety of rolls.



### Design Technology

In DT we will be making puppets in our textile unit. The puppets will be based on story characters and will look at a number of ways of joining pieces of fabric together. The children will then add decorations to their puppets as final pieces.



### Computing

In computing, we will be learning about digital writing. The children will be learning to use a computer to type, then looking at how to amend their typing and to change font, size and colour. The children will be using laptops in the year group for this work, a new experience for them.

### Upcoming Dates

Tue - 07.01.25 - First Day of Half Term

Wed - 05.02.25 - Y1 - Y6 Parent Showcase (2:30 - 4:00)

Fri - 14.02.25 - Last Day of Half Term

Year 1 Forest School Days to be rescheduled for Autumn 2 - dates TBC

### Additional Information

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

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