

Autumn 2 Topic Overview

Key Stage 1

Science

Children will explore everyday materials, including wood, plastic, metal, glass and fabric. They will investigate and compare material properties, such as hard, soft, rough, smooth and waterproof, and discover why different materials are suitable for different purposes. Through practical investigations and a design challenge, children will select, test and evaluate materials to create an object for a specific purpose.

Geography

Children will become young geographers as they explore the United Kingdom and discover what makes each of its four countries special. We will learn to locate the UK on a globe and map, name and locate England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and identify their flags and capital cities. Children will explore the UK's physical features, as well as human features and famous landmarks such as Big Ben, Edinburgh Castle, the Senedd and Titanic Belfast. Through practical map work, photographs, sorting activities, construction challenges and geographical investigations, children will compare the four countries and develop their understanding of the world around them. We will finish our topic with a UK Explorer Showcase, where children will celebrate their learning by sharing interesting facts, maps, drawings and models.

Maths

Year 1

This half term, Year 1 will continue to develop their addition and subtraction skills within 10 before exploring 2D and 3D shapes. They will learn to recognise, name, sort and describe shapes, using practical resources, construction activities and hands-on challenges to develop their mathematical understanding.

Year 2

This half term, Year 2 will build on their addition and subtraction skills, learning to add and subtract across 10, work with two-digit numbers and solve a range of mathematical problems. They will also explore the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, identifying sides, vertices, faces and edges, and sorting shapes according to their properties. Children will use practical resources and problem-solving activities to build fluency and confidence.

English

This half term, children will continue to develop their writing skills through a range of exciting texts and creative writing opportunities.

They will focus on writing clear sentences, using correct letter formation, handwriting and spacing between words. Children will be encouraged to reread their writing to check that it makes sense and to make improvements where needed.

Grammar – Year 1 will focus on identifying and using nouns and adjectives, writing simple sentences and using capital letters, full stops and question marks correctly. They will begin to use conjunctions such as *and* to join ideas. Year 2 will build on this by using expanded noun phrases to add detail, exploring different sentence types and using a wider range of conjunctions. They will also develop their use of punctuation, including commas in lists, question marks and exclamation marks.

Spelling – Children will continue to practise common exception words alongside their weekly spellings (please see the school website).

RE

Children will explore how different religions and families celebrate the arrival of a new baby. They will learn about symbols used to welcome new life, such as special clothing, gifts and religious objects, and consider what these symbols represent and why they are important.

Art

Children will explore the textile artist Sheila Hicks and discover how artists use colour, texture and weaving to create artwork. They will experiment with weaving techniques and different materials before using their skills to design and make a colourful woven Christmas bauble.

Reading & Phonics

Read Write Inc. Phonics is taught for 30 minutes every day. During these sessions, children learn new sounds and practise identifying and using them in words to read fluently and accurately. They also learn to think about what is happening in a story and to write words that include taught sounds. Once children become confident, fluent readers, they move on to reading lessons that focus on developing comprehension skills, reading for pleasure, and building speed and fluency.

Reading at home has a huge impact on children's progress. Regular practice helps to reinforce learning from school, improve confidence, and develop a love of reading, giving children the skills they need to succeed across the curriculum.

Off Scheme: Grandad's Island- Benji Davis Into the Forest- Anthony Brown

Computing

Children will learn how to use a digital painting program to create pictures on a computer. They will explore tools such as brushes, colours, shapes and the fill tool, practising how to select, change and use them to create digital artwork. Each lesson will begin with 10 minutes of logging on and typing practice.

PE

Indoor – Ball Skills

Children will develop their ball control and coordination through practical activities. They will practise rolling, bouncing, throwing and catching a ball, learning to control it and use different movements with increasing accuracy.

Outdoor – Sending and Receiving

Children will practise sending and receiving a ball with a partner, using different techniques such as rolling, throwing and kicking. They will develop their accuracy, coordination and control while learning to work cooperatively and respond to others.

PSHE

Children will explore how to feel safe, identify trusted adults and build positive relationships with family and friends. They will learn about Coco Chanel through 'Little People, Big Dreams' and her achievements as a fashion designer, linking to our DT learning. While developing their understanding of how to stay safe online and what to do if something makes them feel worried or uncomfortable.