



Autumn Term: Curriculum Newsletter

We're thrilled to welcome you and your children back to school for the new term! It's been wonderful to see their excitement as they return to their classrooms, ready to learn and grow.

This term is packed with fantastic learning opportunities. In this newsletter, you'll find an overview of what each year group will be covering in English, Maths, Science, History, Geography, PSHE and information about PE. From imaginative writing and problem-solving to exploring the world around us and developing important life skills, there's so much to look forward to.

We're excited to support your children as they take on new challenges, build confidence, and make great progress. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

If you have any questions about your child's learning or would like an update on their progress, please speak to your child's class teacher; they are always willing to help!

Miss Pears

EYFS:



Welcome to school! We hope your children have enjoyed their first few weeks in EYFS!

Continuous Provision:

In EYFS, our new topic is All about Me. The children will be thinking about families, houses, emotions, senses, bodies and developing independence. Familiar stories and books will be used to enhance children's learning. Activities related to the topics will be available for exploring during activity time, such as painting portraits, building and decorating houses, looking at maps of the local area.

Towards the end of the half term, children will have their first taster session in Forest School, which is very exciting.

English:

Children are learning to recognise and write their own name during morning work. This could be something to do at home with your child to support them.

Each week focuses on a different aspect in EYFS during English lessons. The children read a story with their teacher and discuss what they noticed. This half term we will be introducing paired talk and oracy skills to recall elements of their learning and to speak in full sentences.

The children will learn a new nursery rhyme each week. The children will be able to recite each one by heart, developing their confidence and speech.

Maths:

During this half term the children will be covering a range of topics during their Maths lessons. Starting with matching, sorting and comparing groups of items. Later they will be learning about 2D shapes. Moving on to exploring numbers to 3, the children will be learning composition of those numbers and one more or one less. They will continue to review previous learning in lessons including the important skill of subitizing.

PE:

Both classes – Tuesday (outdoor) Friday (indoor)

Please speak to Mrs Divers (Year group Lead) or Miss Bradshaw if you have any queries regarding your child, or would like an update about their progress.

Year 1:



In English in Autumn 1 we will be exploring the different types of weather and the seasons in which they commonly appear. We will be writing sentences, remembering the key ingredients of which are writing on the line, capital letters, finger spaces, correct letter formation and full stops. We will also be writing sentences about several stories such as Rosie's Hat, Seren's Seasons and After the Storm as well as writing sentences based around a non-fiction text called Big Weather where we will explore extreme weathers. In Autumn 2 we will continue to write sentences but in addition, we will also be using adjectives to describe a range of nouns and proper nouns as well as using the conjunction 'and' to join words, phrases and two sentences together. We will use stories to inspire our writing- they will include Katie in London, Katie in

Scotland, The Queen's Hat and The Queen's Handbag. In Reading, we will continue to learn new graphemes and practise identifying them in words. In Autumn 2 we will begin our Guided Reading lessons where we read books with the taught graphemes in- lesson 1 focuses on decoding, lesson 2 on prosody and lesson 3 on comprehension.

In Maths in Autumn 1 In Maths we will be focusing on Place Value within 10; we will learn how to count forwards and backwards, identify one more and one less as well as order and compare numbers. We will then move onto Addition and Subtraction where we will explore part-whole models to help us understand and write addition and subtraction number sentences. In Autumn 2 we will be focussing on Shape; we will learn how to recognise and name 3D and 2D shapes, as well as building pictures from these shapes and identifying and completing repeating and symmetrical patterns. Later in the term we will move onto Place Value to 20, focusing on the composition of 11-20 using knowledge of tens and ones. In our Science lessons we have begun to learn all about the four seasons (focussing on Autumn) and the weathers associated with each season; we will also learn about how day length varies in each season. In our second unit we will learn about different materials and the objects they can make; we will also explore the different properties of the materials.

In Geography we will learn about the four names of the countries that make up the United Kingdom and their three surrounding seas; we will also learn the names of their capital cities and explore them on a virtual bus tour using Google Earth. We will look at different maps and use compass points to explain where a place is in relation to another place. The second unit will focus on the geography of Parkland Primary School- especially focussing on the human and physical features of the surrounding area.

In History we will be looking changes within living memory, where pupils will explore how toys have evolved over time. They will learn that some toys today are similar to those played with by adults in the past, while others have changed or did not exist. Factors such as new technologies and societal attitudes have influenced these changes. Pupils will use sources like photographs, artefacts, advertisements, and personal accounts to understand these changes. They will also learn about the history of teddy bears, including the oldest teddy bear factory in Britain, and the development of teddy bears in Germany and America.

PE Days

1EH- Monday-Indoor Friday-Outdoor

1RS- Thursday-Outdoor Friday- Indoor

1SP- Thursday-Indoor Friday- Outdoor

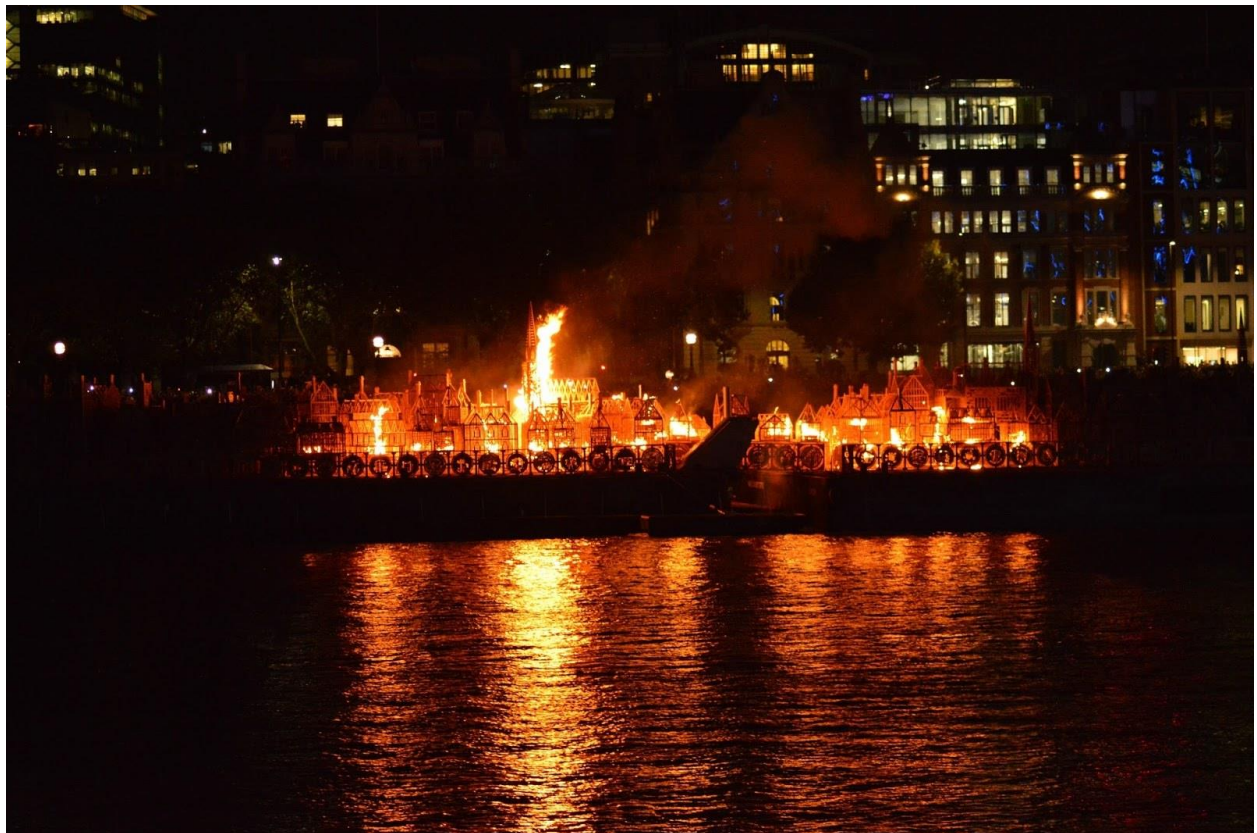
Key Dates

Parents Evening- Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th October- 3.30-6.30pm

1EH Sharing Assembly- Friday 14th November @ 2.30pm

Please speak to Miss Hand (Year group Lead), Miss Stevenson, Mrs Sherrard or Mrs Pryor if you have any queries regarding your child, or would like an update about their progress.

Year 2:



English: In English we will be using nouns, adjectives and verbs to compose sentences about pictures. We will begin learning about expanded noun phrases and use this knowledge to write a setting description about Pudding Lane in London during the 1600s. Following this we will be writing instructions, a diary entry, and a non-fiction recount of the Great Fire of London.

Reading: During our Guided Reading lessons we are focusing on retrieval skills in order to find answers from the text we are reading. We will then be moving onto using our inference skills to further understand the texts.

Maths: During maths lessons we will start by looking at place value with numbers to 100. We will be ordering, comparing and partitioning numbers. We will also be practising our counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s as well as introducing counting in 3s. After this we will move on to addition and subtraction, including adding and subtracting across 10, making 10 and using two-digit numbers in our number sentences. Finally, we will finish our Autumn learning by working with shape. We will look at 2-D and 3-D shapes, as well as lines of symmetry and patterns.

History and Geography: Our History learning journey this term is all about the Great Fire of London. We will look at where and why the fire started, how it spread, and the outcomes. We will be exploring Samuel Pepys and his diary as a source of knowledge, as well as the Fire Service and how building houses changed. During Geography we will be exploring continents and oceans. We will use atlases and globes to recognise the seven continents and five oceans of the world.

Science: In science lessons, we will be exploring uses and properties of everyday materials. We will conduct several experiments to explore the best material for different uses. We will talk about the suitability of some objects compared to others. We will then begin our learning journey all about animals! We will categorise animals into their different groups - mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds and fish - and write fact files about each one.

Key dates for our year group:

Dates for Christmas Carols to follow.

PE days for each class:

2AP - Monday (indoor) Thursday (outdoor)

2JL - Wednesday (indoor) Thursday (outdoor)

2/3TR - Outdoor PE on a Wednesday Indoor PE on a Thursday

Please speak to Miss Parsons (Year group Lead), Mr Liddle or Mrs Revell if you have any queries regarding your child, or would like an update about their progress.

Year 3



Year 3 Autumn 1 curriculum letter

English

This term in English, Year 3 children are diving into the exciting story *Stone Age Boy* by Satoshi Kitamura. Through this engaging text, children are learning how to enhance their writing using adjectives, expanded noun phrases, and powerful verbs to create vivid descriptions. These skills are helping them bring characters and settings to life in their own writing. As a result of their learning, children will be producing an informative poster about life in the Stone Age, combining historical facts with imaginative language. It's a fantastic opportunity for them to develop both their literacy and cross-curricular understanding.

Maths

In Year 3, we are learning all about place value in maths! We're getting really good at working with numbers up to 1,000, and finding out what each digit means in a number – the hundreds, tens, and ones. We will be using number lines, base ten blocks, and place value charts to help us understand how numbers are made and how to break them apart. We will also be practising reading and writing big numbers, putting them in order, and spotting patterns. You can help us at home by asking us to read numbers we see around us or by giving us numbers to break into hundreds, tens, and ones!

Reading

This term, Year 3 children will be engaging with a wide range of texts to strengthen their reading comprehension skills in line with the UK curriculum. They will be learning how to retrieve information, explore vocabulary in context, and make inferences based on what they read. These essential skills help children understand texts more deeply and support their ability to discuss and reflect on what they've read. Through guided reading sessions and class discussions, children will build confidence in interpreting meaning and using evidence from the text to support their ideas.

Art

This term, our Year 3 children will be embarking on an exciting art journey inspired by the imaginative work of Austrian artist and architect Friedensreich Hundertwasser. Known for his vibrant colours, organic shapes, and rejection of straight lines, Hundertwasser's designs offer a rich source of inspiration for young artists. As part of the project, children will explore architectural concepts by looking at floorplans, blueprints, and elevations. They'll learn how these elements are used to plan and design buildings, and how Hundertwasser's unique style challenges traditional architectural norms. This creative exploration will help children develop their visual literacy, spatial awareness, and appreciation for innovative design. We're excited to see the imaginative and colourful creations our students will produce as they blend art with architecture!

Science

This term, Year 3 children will be exploring the exciting topic of rocks, volcanoes, and fossils as part of their science learning. Children will investigate the three main types of rocks—igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic—and discover how they are formed. They will also learn about volcanoes, how they erupt, and their role in shaping the Earth's surface. In addition, children will be introduced to fossils, understanding how they are formed and what they can tell us about life millions of years ago. Through hands-on activities and engaging discussions, children will develop a deeper understanding of the natural world and its fascinating history.

Key dates – Trip to Beaumanor Hall in the Autumn term to be confirmed.

PE days for year 3

3KR- Outdoor PE on a Monday Indoor PE on a Wednesday

3ZC- Outdoor PE on a Tuesday Indoor PE on a Wednesday

2/3TR- Outdoor PE on a Wednesday Indoor PE on a Thursday

Please speak to Mrs Roberts (Year group Lead), Mrs Chaudhry or Mrs Revell if you have any queries regarding your child, or would like an update about their progress.

Year 4-



English

In English this term, we will start by recapping on a range of skills the children learnt during Year 3. We will explore a range of fiction and non-fiction genres looking at developing our writing techniques to make our writing more interesting and engaging for the reader. We will write our own descriptive setting, a narrative based on our class text and conduct some research for a non-chronological report on sea turtles.

Leading on from this, we will pick apart the features of a persuasive letter before writing our own letter to persuade others to be more environmentally friendly. Later in the term, we will write a non-chronological report on an endangered animal. We will also learn and perform a poem to show off our oracy and drama skills alongside writing our own descriptive poem using figurative language, similes and metaphors.

Maths

This term in Year 4, our young mathematicians are diving deeper into **place value**—a fundamental concept that helps children understand the value of each digit in a number. Place value is the building block for many areas of maths, including addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and even problem-solving. We will learn to:

- Recognise the value of digits in numbers up to **10,000**
- Understand the importance of **thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones**
- Use place value to **compare and order numbers**

- Round numbers to the nearest **10, 100 or 1,000**
- Apply their understanding in **real-life contexts**, such as money and measurement. Later in the term, we will focus on addition & subtraction. We will build on our understanding of 4-digit place value by exploring a range of written strategies to add and subtract numbers. This will include exchanging where children will have to cross columns. Towards the end of the Autumn term we will move on to multiplication and division, where the children will learn how to apply and improve their times table knowledge, as well as use their prior learning on place value. During the Autumn term we will focus on strategies to consolidate the times tables from year 3 before learning strategies to learn our 7 and 9 times tables.
- **Multiplication Times Tables Check**
- During the Summer term, the children in Year 4 will complete the statutory Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). We hope you can join us **on Thursday 20th November at 2.30pm** (*in individual classrooms*) where we will share the structure of the assessment and how you can support your child (a letter regarding this exciting afternoon will be sent after half term). **Reading** This half term, we will continue to develop our comprehension skills in guided reading to answer a variety of question types, as well as read a variety of genres of texts. We will be particularly focusing on our retrieval, summarising, sequencing and inference skills. We will explore texts linked to our topic and practice our reading fluency to ensure we read with expression using the punctuation to guide our prosody. We will continue reading our class text: *The Song of the Dolphin Boy* by Elizabeth Laird. **Science** In Science during the Autumn term, we have two exciting topics. First, we will explore the fascinating world of States of Matter where the Children will learn to identify and compare the properties of solids, liquids, and gases, and understand how materials can change from one state to another. Through hands-on investigations and real-life examples, pupils will discover:
 - The key characteristics of solids, liquids, and gases
 - How temperature affects the state of a material (e.g. melting, freezing, evaporating, and condensing)
 - The **water cycle** and how evaporation and condensation play a role in it
 - How to measure temperature using a thermometer. Later in the term, we will explore electrical circuits, also investigating materials that are good conductors and/or insulators. **Art** In art, we will be learning how to use a range of sketching techniques doing observational drawing using pencil, charcoal and pastels to draw water in a glass. We will also learn about **chiaroscuro** looking at contrasts light and dark, shading and

tone to achieve a sense of volume and to show reflection. **Geography** This term in Geography, we are learning all about the Water Cycle—a key part of understanding how water moves around our planet. Through interactive lessons, diagrams, and experiments, children are discovering how water travels through different stages and how this cycle affects weather, climate, and the environment. Key learning includes:

- The four main stages: evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection
- How the sun powers the water cycle
- The role of clouds and rainfall in redistributing water
- How rivers, lakes, and oceans are part of the cycle

PSHE

This term we are focusing on these learning outcome - 'What strengths, skills and interests we have.' and 'To explain how to treat each other with respect' We will learn to understand how our behaviour impacts on others, how to be polite and take responsibility for our actions as well to understand how to develop confident, respectful and safe relationships.

Other events during the term (dates to be confirmed):

- **MTC times tables Parent event- Thursday 20th November at 2.30pm**
- History of South Wigston talk
- Visit from Wigston City Council on recycling
- Sustainability sale

Our PE Days are...

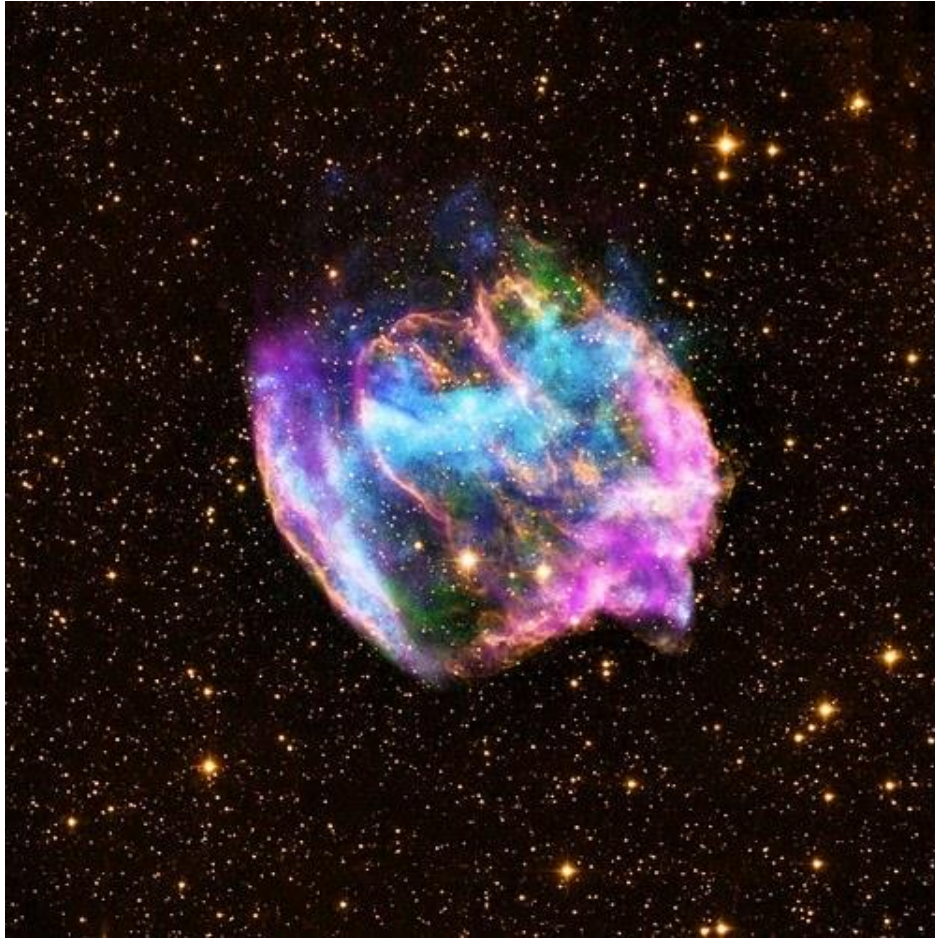
4DR (Monday - indoor PE, Tuesday - outdoor PE)

4VT (Tuesday - indoor PE, Thursday - outdoor PE)

4MT (Tuesday - indoor PE, Wednesday - outdoor PE)

Please speak to Mrs Raymond (Year group Lead), Miss Taylor, Mrs Voigt or Mrs Tuttle if you have any queries regarding your child, or would like an update about their progress.

Year 5-



This half term has started with exploring our Solar System in **Science**. We have learned about the types of planets we have in our Solar System and their relationship with the Sun. We have also learned about the Earth; its orbit around the Sun (which is called a heliocentric orbit,) the reason the Moon orbits Earth and why our planet's rotation creates day and night for us on the surface of our planet. We have also been enjoying reading non-fiction texts about the Solar System and the space race of the mid-20th Century between the USA and the USSR and their race to get a man on the Moon in guided reading. We will later be reading excerpts from "The care and feeding of a pet black hole" by Michelle Cuevas.

In English, we have written a planet fact-file and the children will be learning the story of Apollo 13 (based on our class text) and using that text to create a short narrative based around the story of the crew of Apollo 13. After that we will look at writing a newspaper report about a mysterious UFO sighting!

In Maths, the children have been learning about place value, rounding numbers within 1,000,000 and we have moved into addition and its inverse subtraction. We are currently recapping 2x, 5x and 10x times tables.

Finally, it has been great to see the children enjoying using individual laptops in class. They are involved in blended learning, confidently using TTRS, Teams and OneNote at school.

PE days

5RR - Wednesday outdoor - Thursday indoor

5MT - Monday indoor - Wednesday outdoor

5JS - Tuesdays indoor - Fridays Swimming

Please speak to Mr Rowell (Year group Lead), Mr Stocks or Miss Tuttle if you have any queries regarding your child, or would like an update about their progress.

Year 6:

This term, Year 6 are diving into a rich and varied curriculum that blends creativity, critical thinking, and historical inquiry.

In English, pupils are honing their descriptive writing skills by crafting short setting descriptions, focusing on atmosphere, sensory detail, and precise vocabulary. They are also refining their non-chronological report writing, using World War II as a central theme. This cross-curricular link with History allows students to explore factual writing while deepening their understanding of one of the most significant global events of the 20th century. In Reading, the focus is on developing retrieval and comprehension skills, with an emphasis on understanding vocabulary in context. Pupils will engage with a range of texts, both fiction and non-fiction, to build fluency and confidence in interpreting meaning and drawing inferences.

In Maths, Year 6 are strengthening their foundational skills through a focus on place value, negative numbers, and the four operations. Pupils will be applying these concepts in a variety of arithmetic challenges designed to build fluency and problem-solving ability. This term also includes opportunities to explore reasoning and mathematical thinking through real-world contexts. In Science, the topic of light will guide pupils through investigations into how light travels, how shadows are formed, and how we see. This hands-on approach encourages

curiosity and scientific enquiry. Meanwhile, in History, the class will be exploring World War II in depth—examining its causes, key events, and impact on Britain and the wider world. Through stories, artefacts, and discussion, pupils will gain a deeper appreciation of the resilience and experiences of those who lived through the war.

In the Wider Curriculum, Art lessons will complement the History topic by focusing on drawing people in proportion, inspired by evacuees from World War II. Pupils will study facial features, body shapes, and proportions, learning techniques to accurately represent the human form. They will explore how emotion and character can be conveyed through posture and expression, using historical photographs and stories of evacuees as inspiration. This creative work not only enhances their drawing skills but also deepens their empathy and understanding of the personal impact of war.

PE:

6LG - Wednesday and Thursday

6NA - Monday and Wednesday

6AP - Monday and Tuesday

Please speak to Mr Garner (Year group Lead), Miss Akhter or Miss Peel if you have any queries regarding your child, or would like an update about their progress.