



Year: Class 1- Acorns

Advent term

Curriculum Newsletter

English

Goldilocks and the three bears:

This term the children will be spending a lot of time settling in, getting to know their classmates and learning the rules and the routines of the school. We will begin to learn some key 'Talk for Writing' actions, and practise using our story-teller voices, as we learn to recite the story of Goldilocks and the three bears.

Room on the Broom

This term the children will develop the 'Talk for Writing' actions further. They will practise using story-teller voices, as we learn to recite the story of Room on the Broom.

Spelling: This term, the *Reception children* will begin to learn their set 1 sounds. They will also be using 'Fred Talk' to orally segment sounds and blend them together; "m-a-t mat!" Later in the term, the children will use their segmenting skills to begin to make simple words using their magnetic boards and sound these out. They are setting the foundations to read and write simple three letter words.

Year 1 children will be continuing to learn and rehearse set 2 sounds and beginning to learn set 3 sounds. They will also have a big focus on learning and spelling tricky 'red' words. We will begin to introduce spelling words using letter names, for those children who are fully secure in their set 2 sounds.

Grammar: As part of their Talk for Writing lessons, all children will be learning about adjectives and sequencing words.

Year 1 children will be continuing to strengthen their ability to write simple, clear sentences, using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops, as well as to join ideas using the word 'and'.

Maths

Reception children Maths in both *reception* and *year 1* centres around hands-on practical experiences which help the children make sense of mathematical concepts by connecting numbers and ideas to real-life experiences. This might be organising plates, cutlery and cups for a teddy bears picnic into 'sets', matching patterned socks into pairs or sorting envelopes by size or colour in our role-play post-

	office. This enables children to explore, problem solve and develop a deeper understanding of maths through active learning. The use of games, stories, songs and play make maths meaningful, enjoyable and memorable as the children build on their knowledge of 1-3 and consider numbers 4 and 5. The children are working towards having a deep understanding of these numbers including the composition of each number – for example 5 can be made up by a 2 and a 3 or a 4 and a 1. The children will also be exploring the concept of 1 more and 1 less. Year 1 children will begin the term with revisiting place value within 10, providing a strong foundation for counting, comparing and ordering numbers. The children will then progress to sorting, recognising and creating patterns with 2D and 3D shapes helping to develop spacial awareness and mathematical reasoning. After half term the children will build upon their strong knowledge of numbers to 10 by focussing on addition and subtraction within 10. They will use number tracks, part, part, whole models, and other tangible manipulatives.
RE	Advent 1- Creation and Covenant This term in RE the children will be learning to: ● Retell the story of Creation in any form ● Know that Creation is a gift from God and talk about how it is expressed in different artistic ways ● Know that God is in the wonder of Creation and recognise that prayer can bring us closer to Him ● Reflect upon the opening words of the Creed and reflect upon what they, and the words of Our Father, means to them ● Recognise that God gave us the responsibility of looking after his creation and each other ● Know that the Pope wrote a letter 'Laudato Si' about the gift of Creation, and the importance of caring for the world as it is everyone's home ● Know that caring for our local community (school) matters to us and to God. ● Know that around the world, different communities care for God's creation. ● Talk about why we should care for God's creation? Why does it matter? (Assessment piece) ● Plan a 'Celebration of the Word' to respond to this topic Advent 2- Prophecy and Promise This term in RE the children will be learning to: ● Know why the stories in the bible are so special. ● Know that in the annunciation God called Mary and she said 'yes' and this is why Mary is important to Christians.

	● Know the story of the Visitation and that it came after the Annunciation. ● Know that the first words of the Hail Mary were said by the Angel Gabriel at the Annunciation. ● Know the story of Jesus's birth. ● know that the nativity can be represented in many ways. ● know why the angels came to see the shepherds ● know that the angels message to the shepherds is used in the Gloria. ● Know the sequence of stories from the annunciation to the visit from the shepherds (Assessment Piece) ● Plan a 'Celebration of the Word' to respond to this topic As with all of our learning, RE lessons will be carried out with a range of circle times, listening to stories, creating arts and crafts, music and singing, as well as praying and learning how to set up our worship space and prayer table. <i>Year 1 activities will incorporate more writing than in last year's lessons, but still working in small guided groups.</i>
Understanding The World <i>People who help us</i> <i>Seasonal Celebrations</i>	Reception children In Advent 1 the children will be learning about a range of different people in our community who help us, starting with their own families and progressing to their school and the teachers here to help, guide and support them. The children will then learn about our wider community, exploring the importance roles of doctors, postal workers, dentists and fire-fighters. After half-term the focus will be on 'seasonal celebrations' beginning with the children learning about the change in seasons. We will explore the natural world, for example going on a leaf hunt and observing the different colours of leaves in Autumn. The children will learn about a range of different celebrations and important events that occur this time of year. They will learn about Diwali by making their own Diya lamps, joining in with dances, creating beautiful rangolis and sampling some different Indian foods. The children will share personal experiences of bonfire night, watch different fire-works on our big screen and explore mixed media to make their own firework scenes. They will begin to learn about Remembrance Day and paint poppy stones which they will place in our sacred garden – where they will also sprinkle poppy seeds. The term will end with beginning to learn The Christmas story and performing songs in our annual Nativity.

Science <i>Animals including humans</i> <i>Everyday materials</i>	Year 1 children will build upon their knowledge of woodland and rainforest animals by exploring the scientific reasoning for ‘what makes an animal’ and learning about the different animal groups. The children will observe teeth on different animal skulls and make links to the types of food the animal would eat and whether this would categorise them as carnivores, herbivores or omnivores. The importance of practical experiences continues, allowing the children opportunities to explore, investigate and make sense of the world around them, developing their curiosity, observation, questioning, problem solving and critical thinking skills. The science unit after half-term is ‘Everyday materials.’ The children will explore what objects are made from, the properties of different materials and how to compare and classify them. Materials focussed on include wood, metal, plastic and glass, alongside practical exploration of their properties.
History <i>Changes within living memory</i>	Year 1 children will build upon their existing knowledge of communities by learning about the town in which they live, the different shops they have visited and the wares those shops sell. Using old photographic evidence the children will use careful observation skills to compare and contrast shops in the past to modern day shops. They will use their reasoning skills to discuss how shopping habits have changed over time and consider why this might be.
Art & DT	In Reception Art and DT is strongly woven into many areas of our curriculum, for example topic and RSHE lessons which helps bring to life and embed learnings. Children will practise using scissors and holding pens, pencils, crayons, chalks and paintbrushes. The children will explore a wide range of materials – for example, after reading the story ‘Owl Babies’ in RSHE the children will use feathers and glue to make their own owl babies to retell the story! An extensive variety of arts and crafts materials are available for the children to explore during continuous provision, this term strongly focussing on mark making using many different mediums and surfaces.
Computing <i>Computing systems data and information</i>	Year 1 children will begin their computing learning journey by considering what technology is and exploring the different types of technology at school and around their home. They will think carefully about the different ways technology helps us, from pencil sharpeners to fridges, to mobile phones and computers. The children will learn about the basic parts of a computer or laptop and then use simple programmes to develop their tracking pad and keyboard skills. Children will learn about online safety to help them develop the knowledge and skills to use technology safely, recognise potential risks and know how to seek help from a trusted adult.

Music	The children will enjoy moving their bodies to different music and recognisable songs. They will explore 'beat' by clapping their hands in time with different tempos.
PE	In this unit children will be introduced to Physical Education and structured movement through the topic of 'fantasy and adventure.' They will spend time learning basic principles of a PE lesson such as finding space, freezing on command and using and sharing equipment. They will work individually, with a partner and also as a group. They will take part in activities which will develop fundamental movement skills such as running, jumping and skipping.
RSHE	During the first two weeks of school there are lots of short circle time sessions. Each session introduces the children to a class rule – for example 'kind hands' and the children play a circle game to help embed the rule. Over week 3 and week 4 the children learn about the seven days of the Creation, which is brought to life with actions and musical instruments. Over weeks 4-7 the topic is 'I am me!'. These short sessions help the children learn that they are uniquely created by God and are special because they are made and loved by him.
Curriculum enrichment	During topic we are learning about 'People Who Help us.' When we learn about postal workers we will make cards for each other and walk to the post box to post them. We will also learn about fire-fighters and are looking forward to a visit from our local fire-service! The children will have the opportunity to sit in the fire-engine and fire the hose!