



Year 1/2 Autumn Newsletter

2026/2027

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you've all had a lovely and relaxing summer and enjoyed some special family time.

We are looking forward to a fantastic Autumn Term full of exciting learning, new experiences and lots of fun!

Below is an overview of what we will be learning and exploring this term. We look forward to working together and supporting the children as they settle back into school.

English

Topic 1: Charles Dickens & Oliver Twist

We will immerse ourselves in the world of Charles Dickens and explore *Oliver Twist*. We will develop our understanding of characters and settings before writing our own detailed character descriptions.

Topic 2: Labels, Lists & Captions

We will explore how labels, lists and captions are used to organise and share information. We will develop our vocabulary and sentence-writing skills while creating our own examples.

Topic 3: Poetry

We will explore different types of poetry linked to our Geography topic of Weather. We will use descriptive language, rhyme and interesting vocabulary to create our own weather-inspired poems.

Topic 4: Instructions

We will learn how to write clear and well-ordered instructions, using time words and bossy verbs. This will link closely to our DT topic on slides and levers, as we explain how to make and use our designs.

Maths

Topic 1: Number & Place Value

We will develop our understanding of numbers and place value, learning how numbers are represented, compared and ordered. We will build confidence with counting and recognising the value of each digit in a number.

Topic 2: Addition & Subtraction

We will develop our skills in adding and subtracting numbers using a range of practical methods and strategies. We will solve calculations and apply our knowledge to a variety of problems.

Topic 3: Multiplication & Division

We will explore multiplication and division, developing our understanding of equal groups, sharing and grouping. We will begin to use our times tables and apply these skills to solve problems.

Both Year 1 and Year 2 will work through **Mastering Number** throughout the year. These sessions will help children develop strong number sense, fluency and confidence with numbers and calculations.

PE

PE will take place every **Monday** morning.

We will be practicing our gymnastics skills.



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Guided Reading

This term, Year 1 and 2 will continue to develop their reading skills through our Shared Reader books. Parents and carers can access the FFT Parental Portal using the code **yx6fkq**. The same code can be used to access both Year 1 and Year 2 libraries.

Year 1: *Shared Readers Library* – starting from Book 33: On the Train to Troon

[Shared Readers Library – Parent Portal](#)

Year 2: *Routes to Reading Library* – starting from Term 1: The Tale of Chicken Little

[Routes to Reading Library – Parent Portal](#)

These books will be read regularly in class. Please also encourage your child to read regularly at home and discuss the stories together to help develop their confidence, fluency and comprehension.

Science

Topic: Animals Including Humans

We will explore the world of animals, including humans, learning about the different ways animals grow, move and change. We will identify and compare different animals, looking at their needs and how they are suited to their environments. We will also learn about the importance of keeping our bodies healthy through food, exercise and hygiene.

PSHE / RHE

Topic: Zippy's Friends

We will develop our emotional and social skills through the Zippy's Friends programme. We will explore different emotions, learn how to express our feelings, talk about friendships and discover positive ways to cope when we face difficulties or challenges.

Music

Topic: Djembe

We will be learning to play the djembe, exploring different rhythms and beats. We will develop our listening and timing skills while learning to play together as an ensemble. We will also have lots of fun creating and performing our own rhythms.

History

Topic: Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria & Queen Elizabeth II

We will learn about the lives and reigns of Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II. We will explore what life was like during each of their reigns. This topic will also link to our Art learning, where we will create artwork inspired by Queen Elizabeth II.



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Art

Topic: Queen Elizabeth II

We will explore portraits of Queen Elizabeth II, looking at how artists use colour, shape, line and pattern to create a recognisable portrait. We will develop our drawing and painting skills and create our own artwork inspired by the Queen, linking closely with our history topic.

Geography

Topic: Weather

We will explore the world of weather, learning about different types of weather and the seasons. We will develop our understanding of how weather changes and how it can affect people, animals and our environment.

Computing

Topic 1: Technology Around Us

We will explore the different types of technology we use in our everyday lives. We will identify how technology helps us at home, in school and in the wider world, and learn how to use technology safely and responsibly.

Topic 2: Digital Painting

We will explore how computers and tablets can be used to create digital artwork. We will experiment with different tools, colours, shapes and effects to create our own digital paintings.

DT

Topic: Slides & Levers

We will explore how slides and levers work and investigate how they can be used in different designs. We will plan, design and create our own moving mechanisms, developing our practical skills and learning how to evaluate and improve our designs. This topic will also link to our English learning, where we will write clear instructions explaining how to make our designs.

Homework

Homework helps children practise and reinforce their learning. We really appreciate your support at home.

- Book bags should be brought into school every day and will contain a spelling book, maths homework book, reading record, two reading books and a library book.
- Spellings are sent home every Friday and tested the following Friday.
- Maths homework is sent home every two weeks and should be returned by the given date. Please add a short comment about how your child found the activity.
- Reading should be completed regularly at home. Please record a short comment in the reading record. Children will receive a 'Greenie' reward card when a home-reading comment is added.
- Library books are changed every Friday.

Please speak to us if you have any questions or need support with homework.



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Thank you for your continued support. The best learning happens when home and school work together.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss something further, please speak to a member of staff or contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

 School Office Telephone: 0191 267 5677