

Addendum: due to school closures as a result of COVID, all classes will spend some of autumn 1 reviewing the crucial knowledge from each subject area that should have been covered in the previous year during spring term 1, and summer terms 1 and 2.

| Subject | Learning | Resources, trips and visitors |
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| RE | The first topic covered in this term is 'Ourselves'. We think about our own qualities, and the qualities of others. Children will consider how it feels to be God's children and contemplate what it means to be unique. In this topic, we look closely at friendships and what it means to serve and be committed to others. We then move on to a topic called 'Life Choices'. Finally, around Christmas time, we study a unit of work called 'Hope'. This is all about waiting and preparing for advent, we learn about Mary and how she waited for Jesus' arrival. | Ideas for the weekend: Visit one of the cathedrals during advent to see how they are preparing for the birth of Jesus. |
| English | We start the year with a beautiful book called 'Henry's Freedom Box'. This text address themes such as slavery and seeking refuge and looks at America's history. We will use our knowledge and understanding of the story to write a diary entry. In basic skills, the children will learn how to use semi-colons, colons, hyphens and dashes correctly. We will work on expanded noun phrases and learn about different verb forms. Children will focus on use of commas to separate clauses, and to avoid ambiguity. Children will work on their spoken and written English by studying different vocabulary and sentence structures. | Resources: You might like to purchase the book and discuss it with your child further. Ideas for the weekend: Visit the International Slavery Museum and learn more about the impact of slavery. |
| Maths | We start the year focusing on number and place value. We will learn to read numbers up to 1,000,000, deepening our understanding of place value through comparison, rounding and partitioning. We will continue to work on addition and subtraction, focusing on mental strategies as well as formal written methods. Later in the term, we will work on multiplication and division. The children will learn to identify multiples and common factors of given 2-digit numbers. | Ideas for the weekend: Encourage your child to pay for items with cash and work out change for you. Resources: an analogue wristwatch. |
| Science | Our first topic is Forces! Here we build models with K'nex in order to explore simple mechanisms such as levers, gears and pulley. Children learn about and investigate the effects of drag, water-resistance and gravity. In autumn 2, we start our learning about Living Things and their Habitats. In this unit, children investigate and explore the life cycles of different types of animals. They find out how different plants reproduce - including spider plants, potatoes and succulents. | Ideas for the weekend: The Catalyst Museum is a great place to visit for deepening children's knowledge of Chemistry and Physics. |
| Geography | Throughout the year, we have a strong focus on mapping. Our aim is to learn all of the OS map symbols and read 6-figure grid references, so we can put this knowledge to the test in our summer trip. In autumn 2, we start a unit of work called The United Kingdom. Here the children investigate the countries, isles and counties that make up our country, as well as some important geographical features. | Resources: You can buy OS maps from charity shops. Play games such as eye spy and test your child on the different symbols. |
| History | Our topic this term is Ancient Greece. The children will study democracy at length and make comparisons between Athens and Sparta. They will discover who the Ancient Greeks believed in and how their gods had different 'roles'. The children will also learn about the culture of the Ancient Greeks; what they wore, what they did for fun and special events. | Ideas for the weekend: The World Museum has a great, free exhibition on the Ancient Greeks. |
| ICT/Computing | In computing, the children will be coding. They will work on debugging algorithms and creating their own programs to meet a design brief. Important, in E-safety, the children will work on safe online communication, privacy and security. | Ideas for the weekend: Ask your child to create safe passwords for any child-friendly accounts they might have. |
| Art | Our topic this term is called 'Illusions and Perspectives'. We study artists such as Jacques Rousseau and Borrell de Caso. Our aim here is to master creating depth and distance in our work. The children will learn about vanishing points and foreshortening. | Resources: Have your child save up their pocket money and take them to buy a home sketchpad and sketching pencil. |
| D&T | This term is our food and nutrition unit: Bread! It's always a much enjoyed unit and we make the whole school envious filled the rooms with the small of baking bread. The children taste, test and design their own loaves or rolls. They explore the nutritional value of ingredients and how flour is produced. | Ideas for the weekend: Use your basic bread recipe and experiment with different flavours at home. |
| PE | We have PE on Tuesdays and Fridays. In Autumn 1, we will be improving our athletics and learning cricket. In Autumn 2, the children will do tag rugby outside and gymnastics in the Sports Hall. | Resources: Consider signing up for a local rugby team or dance group. |
| Music | Music with Mr Larkin will be on Tuesday afternoons. The children start with a jazz unit, and in autumn 2 will learn about rock, focusing on the song Livin' on a Prayer by Bon Jovi. They will learn to identify features of jazz and rock genres, and will develop their skills in listening, appraising, composing, improvising and performing. | Resources: Listen to other examples of jazz and rock at home. |
| PSHE | PSHE is integral to our community. We focus on many themes each term to develop our children into well-rounded individuals. This term, we learn about community, grief and loss, managing conflict, the PANTS rule and healthy relationships. In response to the pandemic, we will be working on ways to stay safe. | Ideas for the weekend: discuss topics your child has been focusing on at home. It is good to be open and talk about feelings with those closest to us. |
| Spanish | Spanish is now taught by Mr Larkin. The children will learn how to talk about and describe their family members. They will learn to name more body parts in Spanish. They will revise and use their knowledge of colours, time and clothing in sentences. Around Christmas, they will find out about Christmas traditions in Spain and compare cultural differences. | Ideas for the weekend: make a Spanish Christmas card that we can post to our partner school in Spain. |

^{*}Not all subjects are taught in each half term, but all will be covered during the whole autumn term.