



# Curriculum Newsletter

Year 2 - Autumn 2024

This term our learning journey is called 'Into the Woods'. We will be following a young hedgehog called 'Isaac' on his journey through the woods, trying to find a friend to play with. We will be exploring the seasonal changes that occur in Autumn and Winter as we learn about the woodland habitat and even meet characters we may recognise from traditional tales. Can we help Isaac hibernate in time for winter?

**Key Text – Wide Awake Hedgehog by Rosie Wellesley**



## We are scientists

### Science knowledge and skills will include

- Identifying that most living things live in habitats, which they are suited to and making simple comparisons.
- Identifying a variety of living things within the woodland habitat, including animals and plants (deciduous and evergreen trees).
- Exploring and comparing differences between things that are living, dead and have never lived.
- Observe and describe weather associated with different seasons.
- Identify basic structure of trees - Including roots, trunk, leaves, and branches.
- Identify and name common wild plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees.
- Recognise that animals including humans have offspring which grow into adults.



## We are geographers

### Geography knowledge and skills will include

- Using simple fieldwork and observational skills to explore the geography of the school grounds and its surrounding area.
- Identify seasonal and daily weather changes in the United Kingdom.
- Distinguishing what features in a location have been created by people and what features are natural. For example, houses, shops, hills, forests.
- Using information books and pictures as sources of information.
- Using aerial photographs to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features.



## English

### Grammar, punctuation and spelling

- Use sentence punctuation such as capital letters, full stops, exclamation marks and question marks more accurately.
- Spell words correctly using knowledge of alternative phonemes for accurate spelling.
- Understand and use expanded noun phrases.

**Children will focus on spellings linked to the sounds and spelling choices they have covered in their Supersonic phonic sessions.**

### Writing

- To rehearse a sequence of sentences out loud.
- Sequence sentences to create a description or story.
- To use present and past tense consistently.
- Join in with some traditional tales and poems aloud, learning to recite them off by heart.
- Use simple organisational devices to create a non-fiction piece about woodland animals.

## Maths

- Count in steps of 2, 5 and 10 going forwards and backwards.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a two-digit number (tens, ones)
- Identify, represent, and estimate numbers using different representations.
- Solve problems with addition and subtraction.
- Recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20.
- Show that addition of two numbers can be done in any order and subtraction of one number from another cannot.
- Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers.

**Use objects at home to practically count in steps of 1, 2, 5, and 10 and also add and subtract numbers to 20 and beyond.**



## PSHE/RSE

We will be focusing on the ways we change to help us grow, recognising different ways to make friends and how to keep ourselves safe.

## Computing – Knowledge and Skills

The children will learn the importance of not sharing personal information online and understand ways to stay safe online.

## Music –

We will explore using tuned and untuned instruments. In a group, we will compose and perform a sequence of autumnal sounds and evaluate our performance.

## Physical Education – Knowledge and skills

We will be developing simple tactics in team games as well as improving our attacking and defending skills. In gymnastics, we will be developing our ability to balance and climb as well as creating a sequence of moves. We will be developing our gymnastics skills.

**PE days – Thursday indoor Friday outdoor**

## Art – Knowledge and skills

We will show our understanding of the four seasons by experimenting and creating art in the style of Wassily Kandinsky. We will also explore and create our own natural art inspired by Andy Goldsworthy.

## DT – Knowledge and skills

We will be designing and making a purposeful object. We will create simple drawings with labels, use joining techniques to assemble our final product and finally, evaluate it.

## Rights Respecting Schools

Article 13, 14: The right to have an opinion and not be judged for who they are/what they do.

Article 15: The right to have friendships.

Article 27: The right to a suitable living environment.

## RE – Knowledge and skills

We will be investigating Christianity. This will be by listening and responding to Christian stories and also what artefacts symbolise Christianity.

## Supporting learning at home

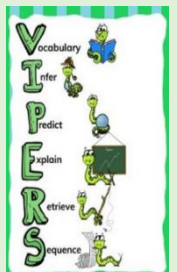
Your child will be set phonics or maths homework on a Wednesday, this should be returned by Monday morning. Your child may also be given small additional tasks for areas identified as needing support.

### Reading

Children are strongly encouraged to read some of their home reading book **every night** and change on the set days. They have the opportunity to change their reading book on a **Monday and Thursday**. This should be recorded in their reading record book as should any additional reading undertaken at home.

It is important to take time to discuss the book and ensure that your child has a good understanding of the text as well as being able to decode the words and read with increasing fluency. Re-reading sections of the book or the whole book again will allow them to increase their fluency and confidence.

During reading lessons, we will be exploring our reading 'VIPERS' which support the children in developing their wider reading skills. It is also imperative that you read regularly to your child and share other stories and books at home to develop their love of reading and extend their vocabulary knowledge. Check in the back inside cover of the home reader, as usually Big Cat books have some activity ideas relating to the book that you can choose to complete and send in to school.



To support your child, as they progress in our Supersonic Phonics/Spelling programme, they will receive newsletters outlining the sounds they have been learning and the next group of sounds they will be focusing on. Please reinforce your child's understanding of these sounds by practising reading and writing the words shown. Any practising may be brought into school and celebrated with their class.

**Phonics/Spelling Workshop** - You will soon be receiving a letter to invite you to a Year 2 phonics/spelling workshop, where staff will explore our phonics scheme with you and share useful information to support your child's early reading skills at home.

