

YEAR 1 Curriculum Blog

Autumn 1 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

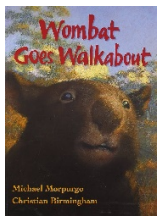
Welcome to Year 1! We hope you have had a wonderful summer break and are as excited about the start of the school year as we are. Through this curriculum blog we hope to keep you informed and engaged with your child's learning journey. With your help, we hope to nurture curiosity and develop an enthusiasm for learning that will continue long after they leave Year 1.

Our topic title for this half term is 'Seasonal Changes'. Below you will find details of all the areas your child will be focusing on, along with some ways you can support your child with their learning. We look forward to working with you this year to support your child to achieve their potential.

Should you have any questions or need any clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact us via Class Dojo.

Kind regards,
Mrs Smith, Miss Orchard and Mrs Ahmet

English



Our first text this half term will be 'Wombat Goes Walkabout', a lovely tale about a young wombat who likes to think a lot and dig a lot. On his journey to find his mother he encounters several Australian animals and finally his digging and thinking help save the day. Our second text is 'Seasons,' an information book providing simple facts about the wildlife and plants that change through the seasons. Both texts contain beautiful images to engage and entrance the children and encourage them to talk descriptively about what they see.






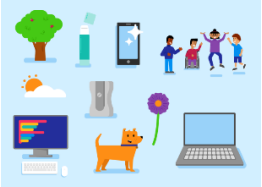




Using these texts as their stimuli, the children will focus on structuring clear sentences ensuring they rehearse their ideas orally first before writing. They will work on remembering to use capital letters, finger gaps and full stops and will begin to develop the vocabulary they include in their sentences using the 'Write Stuff' lenses that they have been introduced to in Early Years. At the end of each writing unit the children will have the chance to produce an independent piece of writing applying all that they have learned.

Mathematics



Our initial maths focus will be on the place value of numbers to 10. The children will explore different ways to represent each number and will learn to recognise the numbers to 10 as words. They will also practise counting on and back from any given number up to 10, understanding that they do not always have to start at 0. In addition, they will focus on finding one more and one less than a given number. As part of this unit the children will learn the words and symbols that will allow them to compare numbers and explain how they have ordered them. The children will also become familiar with the number line. At the end of this half term, the children will start their addition and subtraction unit. They will apply their place value knowledge to support their work in this.

Please log in to Numbots to further support maths learning. Contact your class teacher via Class Dojo if you need any help with this.

<p>RWI</p>  	<p>The children will continue their RWI journey using the systematic approach they began in Early Years. Every day, they will focus on consolidating their existing phonic knowledge as well as learning new sounds. They will read phonically decodable texts at an appropriate level, and will work on developing their speed and accuracy when reading.</p> <p>To further support your child at home, please access the fantastic books on our school website as well as on the Oxford Owl website and encourage your child to read the school texts sent home at least three times in the week. Remember to encourage your child to read daily and please log all of their reading on BOOM READER, including any texts from home or the library you may share.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>During our science sessions the children will be starting to investigate how the seasons change throughout the year. They will compare the weather experienced in each season and will consider the types of clothing most suited for each using their own experiences of the world to support them. The children will spend time outside exploring the field and school grounds to find evidence of which season we are in and will be encouraged to explain how they know. Using existing data, the children will draw simple conclusions and answer questions like “Which season has the most daylight hours?” They will also begin to gather their own data about the weather and present it using a simple bar chart.</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p>During our ‘Technology Around Us’ unit, the children will develop their understanding of what technology is and how it can help them in their everyday lives. They will start to become familiar with the different components of a computer and a laptop and will develop their keyboard and mouse skills. They will also practise logging on and off a computer, typing their own name and saving and editing their work. Finally, they will consider how to use technology responsibly.</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Our geography unit is ‘Hot and Cold areas of the World’. The children will start by learning the names of the 7 continents and 5 oceans, before beginning to use atlases to locate the North and South Poles and the equator along with examples of countries near to each. They will then focus in on Antarctica, looking at the different features of this continent including the animals and landscape.</p>
<p>Art</p> 	<p>Our art unit is ‘Spirals’ and the focus is on drawing. The children will develop their skills using different media including charcoal, chinks, pencils and pens. They will explore using their whole body to create different types of spirals and will talk about which media they preferred using. We will explore the artwork of Henri Matisse and Wassily Kandinsky as inspiration, and will also use real shells to create spiral drawings.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>In our music lessons this half term, pupils will learn ‘Hey You!’ by Joanna Mangona which is an Old-School Hip Hop tune written for children to learn about the differences between pulse, rhythm and pitch and to learn how to rap and enjoy it in its original form.</p> <p>As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose this song, children will listen to and appraise other Old-School Hip Hop tunes.</p>
<p>PSHE/RSE</p> 	<p>This year we will be using the ‘No Outsiders’ scheme alongside our existing PHSE/RSE curriculum. Using a picture book to spark conversations and questions, children will explore diversity and community cohesion.</p> <p>Our first focus from our PSHE/RSE scheme is about respecting ourselves and others, recognising how our behaviour can affect others and ways to be polite</p>



and respectful. They will then move onto focusing on families and friendships considering the roles different people in their lives play and the kinds of families that exist.

RE



Our RE focus is 'Who is a Christian and what do they believe?' The children will explore what being a Christian means and identify symbols linked to Christianity. They will learn about what Christians believe about God and Jesus and explore stories from the Bible, discussing what messages these stories are trying to give us. The children will have opportunities to share their learning through drawing, writing and role play.

PE



PE for Year 1 will be on **Thursday** each week. We ask all children to wear LTPS PE kit which is a plain white T shirt and plain black or navy shorts or tracksuit bottoms with black trainers. All jewellery must be removed. Hair must be tied back. NO football kits of any description please.

Our topics in PE this half term are: health related fitness, throwing and catching and gymnastics and dance. The children will have the opportunity to improve their hand eye coordination, balance and spatial awareness as well as developing their upper body strength and flexibility.

Ideas to support your child's learning at home linked to our areas of learning this term:

- ✓ Read daily and log this on Boom Reader.
<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk>
- ✓ Practicing weekly spellings. Once you know them, put your spelling word into a sentence and write it remembering to start your sentence with a capital letter, use finger gaps between your words and end your sentence with a full stop.
- ✓ Regularly practise number facts on Numbots.
- ✓ Explore your gardens, parks, fields and woodlands for clues as to which season we are in – draw and label what you find using your phonic knowledge to build words
- ✓ Practise drawing objects in your house or garden using different media, focus on the details of the shapes
- ✓ Practice number bonds for 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.
- ✓ <https://www.oddizzi.com/teachers/explore-the-world/places/antarctica/> - Take a look at some of the fantastic resources available on Oddizzi to give you some more information about our geography topic this half-term.

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Homework Project – Children are asked to choose one of the projects below to complete.

Please complete and return Homework projects by Friday 13th October. Homework projects will be celebrated and shared in class from Monday 16th October.

1. Conduct seasonal research: Choose your favourite season to research and gather information about. You can include information about the plants, animals, weather and clothing seen in your season. You can choose to present your findings using pictures, drawings, or make a short oral presentation to the class at the end of this half term.

2. Design a seasons poster: Design a colourful poster featuring the different seasons. You can draw or cut out pictures of plants, clothing, weather and animals from magazines and write a short description or fun facts about each one.

3. Create a seasons mobile: Use an old hangar, a stick or some thick card and some string to create a mobile representing one or all of the seasons. You can use coloured paper, paint, natural materials e.g. leaves, pine cones, acorns or anything that takes your fancy!



4. Write a poem about the seasons: You can make a poem using rhyming words or weather noises ready to perform to the class.

5. Design a 3D seasons picture: Create a picture to represent one or all the seasons. You could use coloured paper, pencils, paint, fabric, natural materials e.g. leaves, pinecones, sand or anything you think would work.



6. Compose a song about the seasons: Write a song about your favourite season to perform to the class, you could even play an instrument as well.

7. Perform a season inspired dance: Be inspired by the seasons and create a dance focusing on one season or all of them. You could think about how to show the seasons changing, how plants grow through the seasons or how animals survive across the seasons, then get ready to perform to the class.