'Let your light shine'

Matthew 5.16

Class 1 (Spring 1) Curriculum Newsletter

Our topic This half term our topic is 'The Frozen World'

Physical Development

Class 1 will continue to have sessions with LUFC on Fridays where they focus on sports skills, movement, body control, and team work. In class, we will continue to develop agility, balance and coordination in our outdoor area. On Tuesdays we will also work on our understanding of fitness, and how exercise can help our bodies and minds.

Reminders

Please wear PE kits on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays.** Library books retuned every **Friday**. Reading books returned daily in reading wallets changed Fridays. Please comment in reading diaries for books to be changed.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development and PSHCE

This half term we will be setting the children a challenge; we want all children to be able to put on their own coats and zip them up independently by February half term!

This half term, pupils will learn about foods linked to celebrations in different cultures, exploring similarities and differences in home lives and understanding why special foods are eaten on certain occasions. They will also explore active playground games from around the world, how to play them, how they make them feel, and how to choose games they enjoy.

Literacy

In RWI, Reception will start to learn 'special friends' where 2 or more letters together make 1 sound. We will also begin to read texts, starting with ditty sheets and then moving onto books.

In our literacy lessons, we will be exploring the book 'The Lion Inside' where we will have a focus on story writing.

Through this, Reception will be focussing on starting to write captions and simple sentences, as well as applying their knowledge of single sounds and special friends to spell their words phonetically.

Year 1 will continue to focus on writing sentences that make sense, including the use of adjectives (describing words) to add detail. We will develop our use of story language as well as focussing on punctuation such as capital letters, full stops, exclamation marks and question marks. We will begin to have a larger focus on spelling words accurately and on using correct letter formations in order to present our work neatly.

RE

Our unit this half term is 'Who Wade the World' from the perspective of Christianity. The Children will retell the story of creation from Genesis 1:1–2.3 simply. They will learn that 'Creation' is the beginning of the 'big story' of the Bible. They will say what the story tells Christians about God, creation and the world and give at least one example of what Christians do to say thank you to God for the Creation. Finally, they will think, talk and ask questions about living in an amazing world.

Communication and Language

This half term we will be encouraging the children to ask questions to find out more information, in particular ***how*** and ***why*** questions. We will also be encouraging the children to speak in full sentences and to include more detail when they are describing events. As always, we will be listening to lots of stories and we will be encouraging the children to use story language when retelling stories that have been read to them. We will also be learning lots of new vocabulary and the meaning behind these new words.

Mathematics

Reception will continue to focus on numbers, exploring numbers up to 10. We will learn how to represent numbers in different ways, find one more and one less, and to find different ways to make the numbers (e.g. 5 is made up of 2, 2, 1, or 4 and 1). We will also focus on writing numerals correctly. We will look at doubling as well as odd and even numbers, and we will also begin to look at simple addition – combining two groups of objects practically. Year 1 will continue to develop their understanding of addition and subtraction, as well as place value of numbers up to 20. We will also explore mass and volume.

Understanding the world and Science

In Geography this half term we will be exploring the polar regions. We will find out about the features of both The Arctic and Antarctica including the features of the landscapes, animals, ways of life. We will make simple comparisons between the two places, and between them and the UK. We will explore the climates of the polar regions and how that compares to the climates of different parts of our world and we will begin to have simple discussions about the impact of climate change on the ice caps.

In science we will be looking at materials. We will learn to differentiate objects from the material from which they are made, and will identify the common properties of a range of everyday materials found all around us. Our scientific learning will be based around identifying and classifying and we will practise explaining what we find out verbally, extending our explanations using scientific vocabulary.

Art

This half term the children will be inspired by the French Artist Henry Matisse. We will start by exploring texture - creating snowy scenes using a variety of techniques to represent the snow. The children will explore the collage technique using different materials to create different effects. We will also be practising and developing our cutting, sticking, colour mixing and joining materials techniques already taught.

Class 1

Ways to help your child at home

We welcome and encourage children to continue their learning beyond school and share their achievements with us. We have consciously decided not to publish or set homework sheets, however we would like all children to complete these key weekly tasks and activities.

Phonics

Phonics underpins all of their learning in reading and writing and it is vital that children practise regularly. We will be sending home a copy of the sounds that they are learning and a card with some ideas of activities and games you can play with them to help develop their phonic knowledge and skills.

Daily Reading

Developing a love or reading and learning to read are directly linked to children's success at school and beyond. Reading daily to your child is the single most important thing you can do to help them with their learning. At this stage the children will not have their own books to read, but this love of reading can be fostered just by an adult sharing regular stories at home.

1 Minute Maths

This is a fantastic app, (particularly suited to Year R-3) which helps children to build number confidence and fluency through 1-minute tasks. The app gives instant feedback, with a 'hints' button which rephrases the question if children need a little extra support.

KIRFs

Key Instant Recall Facts

KIRF practise will help your child to learn by heart, key facts and information which they need to have instant recall of. KIRFs are designed to support the development of mental maths skills that underpin much of the maths work in our school. Your child's KIRFs for this half term can be found below.

Year 1 Spring 1 KIRF

Doubles and halves of numbers to 10

By the end of this half term, children should know the following facts. The aim is for them to recall these facts instantly.

0 + 0 = 0	½ of 0 = 0
1 + 1 = 1	½ of 2 = 1
2 + 2 = 4	½ of 4 = 2
3 + 3 = 6	½ of 6 = 3
4 + 4 = 8	½ of 8 = 4
5 + 5 = 10	½ of 10 = 5
6 + 6 = 12	
7 + 7 = 14	
8 + 8 = 16	
9 + 9 = 18	
10 + 10 = 20	

Key Vocabulary

What is **double** 9?

What is **half** of 6?

Top Tips

The secret to success is practising little and often. Use time wisely. Can you practise these KIRFs while walking to school or during a car journey? You don't need to practise them all at once: perhaps you could have a fact of the day.
If you would like more ideas, please speak to your child's teacher.

Ping Pong – In this game, the parent says, "Ping," and the child replies, "Pong." Then the parent says a number and the child doubles it. For a harder version, the adult can say, "Pong." The child replies, "Ping," and then halves the next number given.

Practise online – Go to www.sumdog.com or www.conkermaths.com and see how many questions you can answer in just 90 seconds.

Reception KIRFs Spring 1

I can partition numbers to 5 into two groups

By the end of this half term, children should know the following facts. The aim is for them to recall these facts **instantly**.

5 is made of 5 and 0

5 is made of 4 and 1

5 is made of 3 and 2

Key Vocabulary

5 is made of _____ and _____

Whole

Parts

Top Tips

The secret to success is practising **little** and **often**. Use time wisely. Can you practise these KIRFs while walking to school or during a car journey? You do not need to practise them all at once; perhaps you could have a fact of the day. If you would like more ideas, please speak to your child's teacher.

Use practical resources –

- 5 teddies are made of 1 blue teddy and 4 red teddies
- Find different ways of partitioning 5 biscuits / sweets between 2 plates. How many on each plate?
- Make 2 homes (boxes) for 5 teddies / dolls or 2 car parks for 5 cars. Find different ways to partition the dolls / teddies / cars
- **Watch 'Numberblocks' on CBeebies**
- **www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks**

UTW

The Frozen world

North Pole, Arctic, Arctic Circle, Arctic Ocean, South Pole, Antarctica, continent, Antarctic Circle, Southern Ocean, Equator, Pole, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, Wildlife, habitat, penguin, seal, whale, polar bear, Iceberg, ice-cap, Northern Lights, Southern Lights, population, inhabitants, indigenous, scientist, researcher, explorer, Global warming, climate change, melting, habitat loss

Object/ Material/ Wood / Plastic/ Glass/ Metal/ Solid/ Liquid/ Gas / Water/ Rock / Rough/ smooth/ Bright / shiny/ Dull / dim / Absorbent/ Waterproof/ Bendy/ Stiff/ Soft / Hard/ Squashing/ Stretching/ See through/ Names of common materials/

Key Vocabulary

Spring 1 2026

Expressive Arts and Design

Famous Artist Henry Matisse

Art vocabulary
Overlap, collage, cut, tear, stick, material, background, texture, paper, fabric, glued

Religious Education

Key Vocabulary & Concepts	
Christianity	The religion of Christians
Christian	A follower of Christianity
Bible	Christian Holy Book
Creator (in a Christian context)	God as the maker of the world
Creation Story	Bible Story which explains the Christian belief in how God created the world
Genesis	The first book of the Bible