



Year 1

Curriculum Update

Autumn Term 2023

Miss Laura Shivers (1 Mick Inkpen)

Miss Alison Kirby (1 Eric Carle)

Mrs Hester Wheeler/Mrs Rebecca Oxley (1 Oliver Jeffers)

At RAB we have used our extensive knowledge of what engages and interests children to create our own theme based curriculum based on children's books.



Themes

During this Autumn Term in Year 1 we will be following the themes:

Long, Long Ago! (1st half term) and Cityscapes (2nd half term).

All of our topic work will follow these themes, enabling us to create truly cross-curricular learning.

In the first half of the term we will be creating our own ammonites in Art and exploring our recent past, when dinosaurs were alive and the life of Mary Anning in History. After half term we will be looking at physical and human geography within the local area and in Design Technology we will be learning to make our own free standing structures to make our very own cityscape.

English

In English this term we will be following the book-based themes outlined above. One of our key learning points will be to understand non-chronological report writing. The children will have the opportunity to write a report on a dinosaur of their choice. They will continue to develop their understanding of sentence structure with a great focus on the use of capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. Children will take part in class based phonics sessions and after October half term we will start whole class guided reading. Children will participate in teacher led handwriting sessions at least twice a week. Spellings, which are tricky words or high frequency words, will be sent home for practise, an opportunity to ensure that they are forming their letters correctly and reinforcing the connection between what a word looks like and what it sounds like.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, the main focus is place value within ten and then they move onto adding and subtracting in the second half of the term. The children will represent numbers as amounts, numerals and words and they will be finding one more and one less. The children will have regular opportunities to use manipulatives such as, cubes, tens frames and counters to support their learning and understanding. They will also continue with their Mastering Number sessions (NCETM) which are started in the final half term of Reception. The children love these short sessions where they get to develop their subitising skills and with the use of the Rekenreks the children find ways to compose numbers flexibly.

Over the next few weeks, the children will be able to access 'Numbots' at home. Your child's login will be sent out soon and they will be able to play games on here to help them develop their subitising skills, recall of number bonds and ability to mentally add and subtract. Further guidance on how to access these applications will be sent out in due course.



Science

In Science our aim is to provide opportunities for practising the key scientific skills of observation and the ability to identify similarities and differences. The first half-term we will be focussing on animals including humans. After half-term children will focus on climate, weather and looking at seasonal changes. Following that we will shift to looking at the uses of everyday materials. Children will identify their properties and investigate the best uses for different materials.

History/Geography

In the first half term the children will learn about recent history and about events that were millions of years ago e.g dinosaurs. To start with the children will think about events that have happened in the recent past e.g. at the weekend or in the summer holidays. They will then move on and think about the order of events and how dinosaurs came millions of years before humans. Finally, they will learn about Mary Anning and her importance. They will create a timeline of her life and think about what we know because of her. After the half term break the children will learn about human and physical geography. The children will explore the local area and look at pictures of London to identify places that are man-made and natural. They will also learn the names of the four countries that make up the United Kingdom.

Design Technology & Art

In Art this term they will begin with looking at sculptures. The children will create their own sculptures inspired by Richard Long. They will use natural materials that are found in the school grounds and will complete the unit by making a clay ammonite. After half term the focus in Art will move to drawing, where the children will produce their own sketch of a cityscape using charcoal. The Year 1 children will also do DT in the second half of the term where they will be learning to make free standing structures out of different materials e.g. plastic, cardboard, paper. They will have the opportunity to experiment with different techniques and how to create a stable structure before designing and making their very own cityscape.



Music & PE

All the Year 1 children will have weekly Music lessons with a specialist music teacher in the first half of the term. The theme will be 'Hey You'. The children will learn to find the pulse and rhythm of the music. They will also create body percussion and have the opportunity to play untuned instruments. In P.E. the children will be finding different ways to move their bodies and in their P.E. sessions with Mr Smith, they will be learning to use the apparatus.

Computing

In the first half term the children will be learning about technology around us. They will think about the technology they use at home and what we use at school. The children will also have opportunities to practise their mouse and keyboard skills by using the laptops to complete tasks. One of the main skills the children will learn is to click and drag either using a track pad or a mouse. This can be quite a tricky task.

PSHE/Religious Education

The children will have weekly PSHE sessions which will be taught by another member of staff during PPA sessions. This half term PSHE will focus on Beginning and Belonging which is about building positive relationships, welcoming new people to the school and developing a network of support. After half term the children will focus on Family and Friends which is about developing positive friendships and how to deal with friendship issues. In R.E. the children will be completing a philosophical unit based on what their senses tell them about the world around them and religion. The children will use their senses when learning about Hinduism. They will find out about some of the Hindu Gods, places of worship and religious artefacts.

Classroom agreements



The children have already recapped the 6R's and their importance and have been receiving house points which link to the 6R's. We have also explored the Zones of Regulation and how to use them. During the first week each class created their class charters with expected and unexpected behaviours and also created their oracy agreements.



Supporting your child's learning

In order to support your child's learning there are a range of things you can do at home, making it fun and relevant for them

- Read with and to your child regularly – whilst we believe it is important for the children to practising reading aloud to an adult daily, they also need to listen to good quality picture books being read to them as an opportunity to be exposed to texts that are currently beyond their own reading capability. The children are welcome to bring a picture book home from school daily to support this.
- Allow them to help around the house, using it as an opportunity to practise maths skills such as counting in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s.
- Help them to practise spelling and phonic sounds or high frequency words.
- Engage your children in discussions about topical issues the world around them. There are specially produced newspapers for children as well as TV programmes such as 'Newsround'.
- Draw and colour with them so that they can see how we hold a pencil properly and learn to imitate this.
- Visit museums or famous landmarks linked to our themes.
- Play games and focus on taking turns.
- Practise cutting and sticking activities in preparation for creating out cityscapes in DT