



## Spring Term Newsletter 2025

### Year 1

*With Christ as our guide, we inspire and thrive*

**Welcome:** Welcome back, we hope you all had a lovely Christmas and we wish you all the best for 2025.

For your information, PE will continue to be on a Monday so children will need to arrive in school dressed in their PE kits. Book change will be on a Wednesday, but we ask for reading books and records to be brought to school every day so that we can listen to your child read. We encourage children to read daily at home and it is a school requirement that children have at least 3 adult signatures each week in their reading records to indicate that they have read at home. Home learning will be set on Thursday, and the children have a week to complete it and hand it in. If you have any questions, then please feel free to speak to any of us.

**Below is an outline of what the children will be learning during the Spring term.**

**Religious Education:** We will continue with the new RED curriculum and will be covering the following:

Branch three-Galilee to Jerusalem. By the end of this branch, pupils will recognise and identify key people who encountered Jesus, acknowledging that he holds a special place in religious teachings. They will engage with the Gospel of Luke, retelling stories in various creative forms to deepen their understanding of these religious accounts.

Branch 4-Desert to Garden. The focus of this branch is to learn a little about the season of Lent as a time to prepare for Easter and to know the story of the last week of Jesus' life, his death, and resurrection. Pupils will experience Lent traditions as part of the school's prayer life and through the charitable activities in Lent as part of a school's Catholic life. Through the scripture stories they have heard, pupils have learned about the importance of forgiveness, how an encounter with Jesus changes some people forever, and how Jesus gives himself to others.

**RSE:** The theme is 'To Play with Everyone' and we will be teaching it through the book *Ten Little Pirates* by Mike Brownlo and Simon Rickerty.

**Mathematics:** Below are the main areas that we will be covering and all skills learned are applied in real-life contexts.

We will begin with Place Value within 20, as we explore number 11- 20 and develop a secure understanding using tens and ones which is crucial for future work on addition and subtraction. We will then be estimating and ordering numbers up to 20 on a number line and comparing numbers. We will also look at addition and subtraction within 20 and also looking at doubles and near doubles. As we continue into the Spring term, we will move onto place value within 50, look at length, height, mass and volume.

**Phonics:** We will continue using Supersonic Phonic Friends as our curriculum and we have daily phonic lessons.

**Reading:** We will be starting to use the new reading scheme, 'Pathways to read'. We will be focussing on whole class reading and looking at the text in greater detail. Our first text is 'The Koala who could' by Rachel Bright and Jim Field. Our second text will be 'The Friend mammoth' by Anna Terreros-Martin. We will continue to predict, discuss word meanings, read, retrieve and infer.

**Writing:** We will be starting to use the new writing scheme, 'Pathways to writing' our first unit will be based on the text 'The lion inside' by Rachel Bright. We will be focussing on using punctuating sentences and introducing using 'and' to join words and clauses. The second text is 'The curious text of the missing mammoth' by Ellie Hattie and Carla James Mountford. We will continue to build sentences and use suffixes including ing, ed er est (where no change is needed to the root word, eg jumping, smallest)

**Grammar:** We will continue to punctuate sentences, using a full stop and capital letter. We will explore plurals using s and es, adding ing and ed to verbs and using the comparatives er and est.

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**How you can help at home:** Read with your child on a daily basis and ask questions about the book as you read it. Encouraging your children to write where possible, ensuring that they use the correct punctuation and read back their sentences to check for sense. Practise counting forwards and backwards up to 20, starting at different numbers. Practise number bonds to 10 and 20. Find and read numbers in the 'real' world.

**Science:** We continue with our topic of exploring everyday materials and their uses. We then move on to recognising different types of weather and how they happen. Observe the changes that occur over the seasons and observe weather types, recording and measuring temperatures and rainfall, as well as exploring how plants and animals may adapt to seasons.

**Computing:** As we continue to become more confident at signing in and logging out of the Chrome Books, we complete our topic of grouping and sorting and then move on to pictograms and animated story books.

**History:** The theme is When three queen ruled. In this topic we are going to find out about three of the most famous queens that each ruled this country for a very long time. One lived nearly 500 years ago and one died very recently, so we will see how life has changed a lot over the centuries.

**Art:** We will be drawing spiral snails, feathers and birds. We will look at the artists Kandinsky and Celia Smith.

**Music:** Our theme is timbre and rhythm. We will also be singing hymns and songs in the lead up to Lent.

**PE/Sport:** We will be focusing on gymnastics, balancing in different ways and invasion games where children will begin to learn play within a team.

**PSHE:** We will be looking at problems, communication and trust. In the second half of the term we will be looking what makes a family, respecting others and water safety.

**How you can help at home (in relation to the above subjects):** Find out about the famous figures we are studying in History. Computing: discuss how they can stay safe using technology in their own homes and visit the free website such as thinkuknow.com.