



# Curriculum Newsletter

Merlins

Spring 2026



## Our Theme:

*‘Where in the world is Market Rasen?’*

### Our Christian Values:

Caring      Commitment to Achieve      Co-operation      Fairness  
Honesty      Respect

Welcome back to school. We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break. The children have all settled in and it's been lovely to hear about their holidays. We are all very excited to start developing our knowledge and skills within our new topic: "Where in the World?"

The children will engage with a WOW day where we explore our local area and we will be doing an exit day to celebrate all of the fantastic learning, which has taken place over the term. Here is what you need to know about the curriculum, along with specific information for our class. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

| <b>Spring Term 2026</b>                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Our theme is 'Where in the world?'                                                                 |
| On our WOW day we will explore our local area.                                                     |
| As part of our Exit day, we shall be exploring a different local area and comparing it to our own. |

### **English Reading**

Reading is a vital skill for children to learn as it feeds into every curriculum area. We will continue to have daily reading sessions in separate groups. Around half of the class will be working on reading practice sessions. These sessions involve decoding, prosody and comprehension across the week. This is strongly linked to our phonics scheme. The other children will participate in guided reading sessions where skills such as comprehension and fluency are developed throughout the week.

The Phonics scheme we follow is Little Wandle Letter and Sounds Revised. We will be introducing a range of new graphemes and the Year 1 pupils will participate in daily sessions. Reading is so important within our school and your support at home is invaluable. Reading at least four times a week at home will have a positive impact on the children's learning and reading ability.

### **Writing**

During the Spring Term, we will be linking our English closely with our Geography topic and using some great texts that we are sure the children will enjoy. We will be using 'My World, Your World' by Melanie Walsh as a starting point, practising key oral, writing skills, drama skills, and exploring poetry, letters, recounts and non-chronological writing. We will be starting our term with exploring poetry and writing our own poems. A list of this term's books we will share and enjoy can be found at the end of the newsletter. Our weekly English lessons involve grammar skills, handwriting and writing. In each of our writing purposes, we will build resilience in our learning by saying out loud what we wish to write about, before writing and exploring new subject-specific vocabulary in our work. We will learn how to evaluate our writing with our peers and teacher, and to re-read our work to check for sense. We aim for the children to develop their grammar in sentences, whilst embedding phonics and new vocabulary in their writing. All these skills are developed further when children are heard reading their school reading books at home.

### **Phonics**

This term we are excited to continue with our Phonics scheme in school: Little Wandle Letters and Sounds. For more information about the scheme and how to further support your child please visit:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

### **Active Spelling**

Year 2 have really enjoyed our new approach to spellings over the past half term. The 'Active Spelling' recaps past spelling rules and learning a new rule each week. We are learning to think about how the way the word sounds and looks 'Phonological and Orthography'. We learn all about root words and the prefixes and suffixes with specific words and the rules we need when we apply them.

### **Maths**

In Maths this term, we will begin by developing our skills and knowledge in multiplication and division. This will include grouping numbers, sharing numbers and drawing arrays to show our understanding. We will also continue to consolidate and develop our understanding of place value as this will help us with our other number work.

We will progress to learning about fractions. We will learn how to understand that a fraction is an equal share of a whole and we will do this in a practical way. Many parts of our learning will be visual as this is key to understanding fractions.

Later in the term, we will begin to work on position and direction.

### **Science**

Within Science, we will be developing our knowledge about plants. We will classify parts of a flowering plant and a tree. We will notice how a plant grows over time. After half term we will group and classify materials and their properties. To further our scientific skills, we will look at different purposes some materials are used for and look for patterns. We will also learn about Macintosh and Dunlop and how their inventions shaped the world we live in today.

### **R.E**

Our topic in RE this term is 'Thankfulness' including Christianity. We will discuss the importance of why we say thank you and within this learning we will gain knowledge about how different faiths can show thanks with different celebrations.

### **Computing**

In Computing we are going to be learning how to use a keyboard, improving our mouse skills, looking at technology in our classroom and how to use technology responsibly. We will develop our skills when typing text by adding and removing text along with exploring the toolbar.

### **PSHE**

This year, we will be continuing with the Jigsaw scheme. In this term we will begin with 'Dreams and Goals' and after half term the unit will be 'Healthy Me'. We will gain knowledge about how to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

### **DT**

In DT, we are excited about designing and making our own wind powered vehicles. We will start by gaining knowledge about different vehicles and then begin to think about how to make our own. We will develop our DT skills by measuring and attaching different materials. We are very excited to make and test our wind powered vehicles.

### **Geography**

Our unit of 'Where in the World?' will explore our local area and develop our knowledge of the 7 continents and the 5 oceans of the world. We will be walking around Market Rasen looking at features and then using map skills, compass directions and making a map of Market Rasen. We will compare Market Rasen with Cleethorpes looking at physical and human geographical features.

### **Cooking in the Curriculum**

We are going to learn a range of cooking skills, such as how to stir, spread, knead and shape a range of food and ingredients. We will also begin to learn how to work safely and hygienically within a kitchen environment. We will be making our own scones.

### **P.E**

In P.E the children will enjoy the two units: Health Related Fitness and Rhythmic Gymnastics.

### **Important Information**

Our weekly homework will continue to be **set on Friday** and **returned on Thursday**. Children get house points for each piece of homework they complete to a good standard and we often award merits for super effort, so please encourage your child to complete their homework on time.

We set homework that links to our current learning in class and should mostly be able to be completed independently without the need for lots of adult support (other than reading the task to them). Please ensure your child completes their homework and hands it in on time. Please can an adult sign their homework book.

Our P.E days this term are **Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons**.

### **Reading**

In Key Stage One, we endeavour to change your child's reading book once a week. Please can we ask that you aim to read your child's scheme books with them at least **three** times to support with retention, particularly with Phonics. Research suggests that this also strongly improves fluency.

Your child's books will be linked with the children's Phonics teaching for you to practise at home.

When reading a book three times with your child, please use the following structure:

**Your child will read a word, then the next word and may go back to the beginning and repeat the words to build their fluency. The repetitiveness helps the child retain their phonics and builds confidence. An adult could then ask the child to read for fluency and ask questions about the text. Using 'who, what, where, when and how questions to begin with. Then to gain a deeper understanding ask about specific words and their meanings and predict what might happen next.**

Your child will also bring home a reading for pleasure book that you can enjoy together.

### **Key Reminders**

Children need a **named** water bottle in school every day.

Please **label** any jumpers, coats, gloves and hats.

Please bring **coats** during the Spring term.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to approach me.

Kind regards,

Miss Stones

KS1 books Spring Term 2026

**My World, Your World**

Melanie Walsh

The world is full of all sorts of people, different languages, living different kind of lives but deep down people are the same wherever they live in the world.

**Tolerance and diversity.**



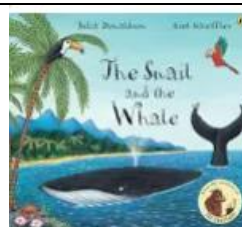
**Meerkat Mail-** Emily Gravett

Sunni, a meerkat leaves home as he wants to find a new home where he feels he belongs. He writes postcards to his old home to tell them of his adventures and he eventually finds his home.



**The Snail and the Whale-** Julia Donaldson

A tale of adventure and friendship that shows how even the smallest person can make the biggest difference.



**Cyril the Lonely Cloud-** Tim Hopgood

No one is ever pleased to see Cyril. Follow him as he is blamed for everything. Join him on his search for a friendly smile.

**Tolerance**



**Amazing Grace-** Mary Hoffman

Grace loves to act. She wants to play Peter Pan in her school play but her classmates say she can't because she is a boy and Peter Pan was not black. But Grace's Ma and Nana tell her she can be anything she wants to be if she puts her mind to it.

**Diversity**

