



Curriculum Newsletter

Merlins

Autumn 2026



Our Theme:

Wonderful Weather

Our Christian Values:

Caring

Commitment to Achieve

Co-operation Fairness

Honesty

Respect

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope you have enjoyed the summer holiday. The children have returned with a fantastic attitude towards their learning and we are excited about developing their skills and knowledge across the curriculum.

During this Autumn Term, we will be learning about a range of exciting things. This commenced with our fun filled WOW Day with some amazing weather themed costumes. Across the weeks, we endeavour to capture the children's interests and develop the children's wellbeing, subject knowledge and subject skills.

Autumn Term 2026
Our theme is 'Wonderful Weather'
On our WOW Day we created a cloud mobile, a kite and dressed to impress with weather themed attire.
As part of our Exit Day, we will be performing as weather presenters.

English

Reading

Reading is vital skill for children to learn. It feeds into every curriculum area. In English, we will have daily reading sessions. These aim to develop each child's ability to understand and discuss the language as well as what is happening in the text. The children will work in smaller groups with some children participating in shared reading and others in guided reading. These sessions will be focusing on key skills across a range of texts and exciting books. At home, this can be supported by your child reading 4 times a week.

Writing

Our class reader will be 'Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs' which links with our exciting topic of 'Wonderful Weather'.

We will be using a variety of exciting narratives this term and they will be the starting points for a range of writing, particularly narrative pieces. We will study traditional tales and fiction ranging amongst others, from Julia Donaldson, Eric Carle and Nick Butterworth.

Our weekly English learning involves grammar, handwriting, transcription, editing and writing all of which are developed and built on through the weeks. We have a particular focus in the Autumn Term ensuring our foundational writing skills are developed accurately.

Our written work will continue to focus on the skill of writing in clear and interesting sentences and developing our basic grammar knowledge. We aim for the children to write for longer periods and use their Phonics and spelling rules in their writing.

Phonics and Spelling

Phonics continues to have significant importance. We are continuing with our Federation scheme 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised'. Children in Year One will gain knowledge of a range of tricky words and graphemes through the weeks and will be encouraged to apply this knowledge to their written work. The children will be developing their skills of blending using known graphemes. Children in Year Two will develop their spelling skills with daily 'Active Spelling' lessons; learning a new spelling rule each week and applying this in their written work. At home, this can be supported by completing the weekly Phonics and spelling homework task.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, this term, we will begin by developing our skills and knowledge of place value of numbers. This will involve a range of equipment to help the children grasp a full understanding of number that will then be applied to their addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills and knowledge. At home, this can be supported by completing the weekly maths homework task.

Geography

In our Geography topic, the knowledge we aim to learn is about seasonal and daily weather patterns in the UK and the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the equator and the North and South Poles. We will also be developing our knowledge of daily weather patterns in the UK. In addition, we will be developing our geographical skills by using atlases to assist us within gaining knowledge about understanding the daily weather patterns of the UK and understanding the dangers of weather too. We will also be developing our skills of fieldwork by using observations to spot weather patterns. We aim to explore the freezing cold Arctic and understand what a cold area of the world is like.

R.E

Our topic in RE this term is about how stories and celebrations are linked. The festivals of Hannukah and Christmas will be our focus and we shall explore their meanings, symbols and how the festivals bring people together.

PSHE/Wellbeing

The wellbeing of the children is extremely important and as a class we will be learning from a carefully planned out wellbeing programme that has been enhanced to allow the children a smooth transition back to school. Our PSHE units start with 'Being in My World' where the children will develop their skill of understanding of others and setting goals and targets for ourselves. This will be followed by the unit 'Celebrating differences' where the children will develop their knowledge of different cultures.

Science

In Science this term, the children will explore everyday materials. This will involve identifying, observing and classifying materials that are used in our everyday environment.

Design and Technology

As part of our broad and balance curriculum, we will be designing and creating our own animal shelters. This involves gaining knowledge of the diverse types of shelters that animals live in. We aim to develop our skills of researching shelters, joining materials together and making a solid structure. We are sure that the children will be highly creative and be engaged by this.

P.E

Our PE topics, this term, will be multiskills and multigames. The children will also be developing their swimming skills during Term 1.

Computing

In computing, we will be developing our programming skills, predicting and using commands for floor robots.

Important Information

Reading

Please listen to your child read as regularly as you can. This 'reading' includes newspapers, instructions, websites and magazines; then, record this in their reading record.

In Key Stage One, we endeavour to change your child's reading book once a week. The children are asked to read four times a week, and this will have a huge benefit on all their learning.

Please can we ask that you aim to read your child's scheme books with them at least three times, before they are changed, 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 knowledge for you to practise at home.

When reading with your child, please use the following structure:

Sound talk to blend each word.

Go back to the beginning of the sentence.

Read for fluency.

Read the whole sentence fluently.

Ask your child about what they have just read.

Key Reminders:

Children need a named water bottle in school every day.

School uniform should be named; this makes it easier to return to your child promptly.

Homework will be set on **Friday and** returned to class on **Thursday**. Homework is an important part of consolidating the week's learning.

P.E days for the Merlins are **Tuesday and Thursday**. The Tuesday session is swimming until half term. The children will need correct P.E uniform for their P.E days.

We are excited about the year ahead and all it has to offer.

Kind regards,

Miss Stones

Texts to be studied this term:

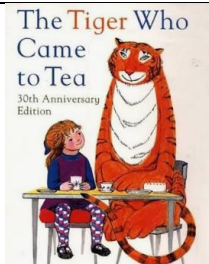
The Three Little Pigs- Traditional.



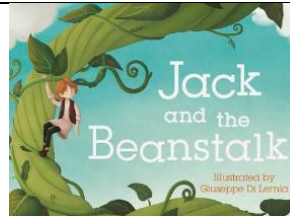
Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers.



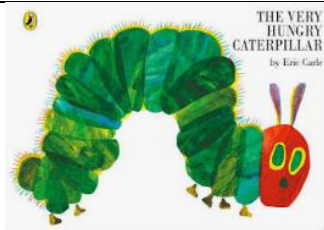
The Tiger that Came to Tea by Judith Kerr.



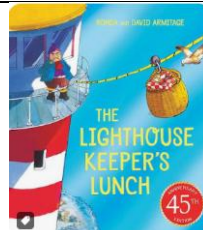
Jack and the Beanstalk- Traditional.



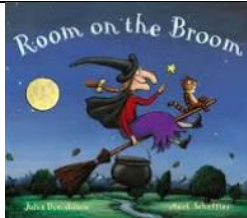
The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle.



The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch by David and Ronda Armitage.



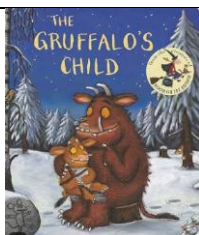
Room on the Broom by Julia Donaldson.



After the Storm by Nick Butterworth.



The Gruffalo's Child by Julia Donaldson.



The Jolly Postman's Christmas by Janet and Allan Ahlberg.

