



# *Curriculum Newsletter*

*Merlins*

*Autumn 2022*



## *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 interest and develop the children's wellbeing, subject knowledge and subject skills.

<b>Autumn Term 2022</b>
Our theme is 'Wonderful Weather'
On our WOW day we made a cloud that rains and dressed to impress with weather themed attire
As part of our Exit day, we shall 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.

### **Writing**

As a class, we will be reading *Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs* which links with our exciting topic of 'Wonderful Weather'. We will be using this text as our starting point for a range of writing, particularly narrative pieces. Our weekly English learning involves grammar, handwriting and writing all of which are developed and built on through the weeks in a curriculum design to help the children develop in their learning from their starting point. 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 in their writing. Their vocabulary, Phonics and writing skills will be helped massively by regular reading of the books supplied by school at home. We require the children to bring their reading record back to school everyday so that we can continue to change books and check on their reading development. The children will be supplied with a Phonics book that is aimed to develop their fluency. The children are asked to read at least four times a week with an adult and get their reading record signed each time. If this is done regularly, it is proven to have a very beneficial impact on learning.

### **Phonics and Spelling**

Phonics continues to have great importance. We are continuing with our new Federation scheme 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised'. The children 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 know graphemes. Once the children have sound phonetical knowledge they will move onto Spelling sessions where a new rule is taught each week.

### **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 counting and calculating using practical resources such as dried pasta.*

### **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.*

*The majority of our Geography learning will be linked with our writing driver Cloudy and the Chance of Meatballs as well as other fiction and non-fiction weather books.*

### **R.E**

*Our topic in RE this term is called Creation and God. This involves gaining knowledge about the creation story of the Bible and starts by exploring man-made and natural materials.*

### **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.*

### **Design and Technology**

*As part of our broad and balanced curriculum, we will be designing and creating our own animal shelters. This involves gaining knowledge of the different 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 very creative and be engaged by this.*

### **P.E**

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

### **Computing**

*In computing, we will be developing our computer skills through the topics: We are Treasure Hunters and We are Detectives.*

## **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 twice 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 a book three times with your child, please use the following structure:

**Read 1: Read to your child**

**Read 2: Your child reads to you**

**Read 3: Ask questions about the text**

### **Key Reminders**

Children need a named water bottle in school every day. Please can we ask that you write your child's name in all their belongings particularly school jumpers.

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

Our P.E days are: **Wednesday and Thursday**. The Thursday session is swimming. The children will need correct PE uniform for their PE days.

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

Kind regards,

Caroline Matthews