Year One Thematic Map, Autumn Term 2- 2026

Leading Lights



Our Theme Based Curriculum

Our themes run for half a term and we try to teach as many subjects as we can through this theme. For Maths, Science, History and Geography, we adopt a blocked and interleaved approach.

Subject	How we teach it	This half term, children will learn
Writing	We teach writing in one week cycles, matching writing cycles to the genre of writing.	Week 1- Create a poster persuading people to use a particular material to build a structure.
		Week 2- Write a recount of making a model or a useful classroom object.
		Week 3- Write questions to ask a nurse about their job, uniform and equipment.
		Week 4- Write a biography of Florence Nightingale.
		Week 5- Write the story of the stickman's adventures using the illustrations.
		Week 6- Write a letter to Santa or a Christmas card to a friend.
Drama and Oracy opportunities	We try to make learning as creative as possible, ensuring lots of opportunities for talk. Children engage in weekly Philosophy for Children sessions as part of oracy and language development.	Children will: ● Use 'Now Press Play', which is an immersive drama experience, linked to our history and science topics. ● Have P4C (Philosophy for Children) sessions that encourage children to discuss and voice their opinions and ideas on a given theme with their classmates. ● Have an opportunity to perform in front of an audience in our Christmas show.

Key Texts	Children will read high quality texts and these texts will be linked to their learning.	Children will read: 1. Iggy Peck, Architect by Andrea Beaty. 2. The Magnificent Thing by Ashley Spires. 3. The Berenstain Bears Go to the Doctor by Stan & Jan Berenstain. 4. Little People, BIG DREAMS: Florence Nightingale. 5. The Stickman by Julia Donaldson. 6. The Jolly Christmas Postman by Janet & Allan Ahlberg.
Maths	Children will learn about topics in a blocked and interleaved way, repeating key learning in daily maths meeting sessions and in lesson starters, in order to improve retention of knowledge.	Children will study these topics: **Addition and Subtraction:** ● Introduce parts and wholes and Part-whole model ● Write number sentences ● Fact families – addition facts ● Number bonds within 10, ● Systematic number bonds within 10 ● Number bonds to 10 ● Addition - add together, add more, addition problems, find a part. ● subtraction – find a part, fact families – the eight facts, take away/cross out, subtraction on a number line. **Shapes:** ● Recognise and name 3-D shapes ● Sort 3-D shapes ● Recognise and name 2-D shapes ● Sort 2-D shapes ● Patterns with 2-D and 3-D shapes
Skills Builder	In Skills Builder, the children learn about one of the following skills: Listening, speaking, problem solving, creativity, adapting, leadership, planning and teamwork. They will learn what each skill means and how to apply it in their daily lives.	During this half term, we will focus on the following skills and skills steps: <u>Speaking</u> ● I communicate clearly with someone I don't know. <u>Problem Solving</u> ● I follow instructions. <u>Creativity</u> ● I imagine different things. <u>Adapting</u> ● I can tell how I am feeling.
Humanities	The theme includes content in History, Geography and RE. Whenever possible, we link this to writing. In History and Geography, we follow an interleaved curriculum where we re-revisit previous learning at regular intervals to recap and embed knowledge.	<u>History:</u> Children will learn about: ● Lives of significant individuals: Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale. E.g. How did Mary Seacole help soldiers? How did Florence Nightingale improve hospitals? How were Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole similar and different? <u>RE:</u> Christianity In RE, we will be exploring the following questions and ideas: ● Who is a Christian and what do they believe? <u>PSHE:</u> In PSHE, we will explore the following topics from Islington's 'You, Me, PSHE' scheme of work: ● Safety in familiar situations. ● About personal safety. ● About people who help keep them safe outside the home.

Science	We follow an interleaved curriculum where we re-revisit previous learning at regular intervals to recap and embed knowledge.	<u>Everyday Materials:</u> In this topic, we will explore the following objectives: ● Investigate transparent, translucent and opaque materials. ● Select the most suitable material to make a curtain. ● Explain why objects are made from particular materials. ● Observe and describe the current season.
Art, Design and Technology	We teach Art and DT in an integrated way and often in blocked sessions. We ensure all pupils learn to cook savoury and sweet dishes, developing a range of cookery knowledge and skills over time.	<u>ART:</u> In Art lessons, we will: ● Bonfire Night- Fireworks painting ● Remembrance Day- Poppies ● Mary Seacole- Portrait ● Florence Nightingale- Portrait ● Create a nativity scene ● Christmas Cards
Music	Children learn to perform, compose and appreciate music. We teach lessons through a scheme named Music Express. Additionally, we offer separate instrument tuition.	**<u>Music Title:</u>** ● Patterns We will learn the following objectives: ● **Listening, playing, performing:** Identifying and playing beats in different groupings (metre); emphasising the strong beat.
Computing	Children learn to use technology effectively and safely, to enhance their learning experiences. We use a progressive scheme of work created with borough support.	**<u>Computing Title:</u>** ● Busy things- Digital painting and digital writing. We will learn the following objectives: ● Developing Basic Skills (Mouse & Keyboard). ● To use online tools effectively to paint a picture. ● To use a computer to write ● To add and remove text on a computer. ● To explain my choices when using tools and changing text.
Cultural Enrichment& Vocational Experience	We include at least one culturally enriching trip each term and organise visitors to the school, to talk about their professions or teach children about the world.	This half term, we will be doing the following: ● A visitor from Domestos will come in on 4th November to deliver a workshop about germs and handwashing. ● Skills Builder Challenge Day - 20th November ● No Pens Day - 27th November We plan to take the children to the locations below. Once we have received confirmation, we will let you know: ● National Portrait Gallery ● Visit to a Church

Vocabulary:	
Vocabulary linked to our theme:	**Definitions:**

Materials:	Materials are the substances that make up objects, and they can be natural or man-made.
Season:	Each of the four divisions of the year (spring, summer, autumn, and winter) is marked by particular weather patterns and daylight hours, resulting from the earth's changing position with regard to the sun.
Feelings:	A natural part of the human experience, encompassing a wide range of emotions and sensations that can be both positive and negative.
Opaque:	Not allowing light to pass through, so you cannot see through it.
Translucent:	Allowing light to pass through, but not allowing objects on the other side to be seen clearly.

Weekly Home Learning:

- Children are given weekly reading books. Please ensure you read with your child every day. Reading journals should be completed by an adult and they will be checked once weekly on a Friday.
- Daily phonics sound and letter formation sheets will be given to children.
- Additional Maths and Literacy worksheets can be found outside the Year 1 classroom.
- Children are expected to complete a task on Doodle Maths every day. Children should complete enough activities to reach the green zone in Doodle Maths every week: https://doodlelearning.com/

Reading recommendations:
We advise our students to borrow and read these books at home:

















