Spring 1 Curriculum Overview

Please note that this overview is a guide and may change slightly depending on the children's understanding and the pace of learning in class.

Mondays

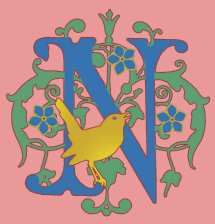
Maths: Investigating Division

5th January: Mixed questions maths relay, consolidating learning from Autumn.
12th January: Investigating division as sharing, including remainders. Extension: estimations and rounding.
19th January: Short division, including remainders. Extension: long division and remainders as decimals.
26th January: Inverse operations. Extension: investigating associated facts
e.g. if 2 x 4 = 8, what is 0.8 divided by 20?
2nd February: Common factors and prime numbers. Extension: use the tree method to find the HCF (highest common factor) and LCM (lowest common multiple) using prime factors.
9th February: Division challenges. Extension: switching recurring decimals to fractions and back.
*N.B. 'Extension' refers to the work given to challenge older/more confident pupils.

English: Narrative writing

Children will be writing a five-part story based on a short animation, focusing on the following skills:

- Exploring a story through narration, drama and freeze-frames
- Using 'show don't tell' to develop a character
- Using pathetic fallacy to hint at growing danger
- Using a range of techniques to build suspense
- Using speech, punctuated accurately, to move the plot forward
- Using a range of literary techniques to create vivid imagery



- Creating atmosphere through careful language choices
- Varying sentence starters and structures to improve fluency and interest

Science: The Solar System

12th January:

Learn the names of the eight planets in our solar system and understand why Pluto is no longer classed as a planet.

Ask their own questions about space and planets, developing curiosity and inquiry skills.

Create and use a memorable mnemonic to help recall the order of the planets.

19th January:

Understand the relative sizes and positions of the Sun, Earth and Moon.

Explore how the Earth, Moon and Sun move in relation to one another.

Learn that Earth is spherical and examine evidence that supports this idea.

Begin to understand how scientists use models to explain things that are too big to see directly.

Learn how day and night happen as the Earth rotates.

26th January:

Learn why the Moon appears to change shape over time.

Identify and name the main phases of the Moon.

Understand that Moon phases are caused by the Moon's position relative to the Earth and Sun.

Recognise and describe the changing appearance of the Moon over a month.

2nd February:

Understand why Earth experiences different seasons throughout the year.

Learn how the tilt of the Earth affects the strength of the Sun.

Explore how sunlight changes at different times of the year.

Understand why the Sun feels stronger in summer and weaker in winter.

Investigate UV beads - create a bracelet and test it with suncream/sun.

9th February:
Build a working model showing how the Earth, Moon and Sun move.
Strengthen understanding of orbits and movement in space.
Learn about gravity and how it differs on other planets.
Explore human space exploration, including the Moon landing.

Tuesdays

Maths: (Nicola)

6th January: Times tables puzzles/games to support division.
13th January: Physical division of objects. Extend into word problems.
20th January: Introduction to/consolidation of long division.
27th January: Inverse operations consolidation through 'think of a number' game. Extension: link to early algebra.
3rd & 10th February: Following how much the children enjoyed learning to use a protractor, we have decided to introduce them to using a compass! They will learn how to draw accurate circles and explore the names and functions of the different parts of a circle, building both their mathematical skills and confidence with practical tools.

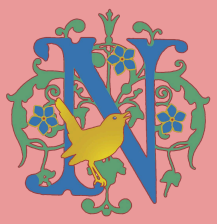
English: (Francesca & Emma)

Reading comprehension, covering the following skills:
Retrieval
Inference
Summarising
Predicting
Vocabulary exploration
Language Analysis

Punctuation:
This lesson is designed to be very flexible and based on the emerging needs of each group, but we will start with the following:
George, Ciel & Josh: punctuating speech accurately, focusing on the reporting clause going both before and after speech.
Phoebe & Peter: completing mixed punctuation quizzes to identify and close any gaps. Introduction to colons and semi-colons.

Geography: Extreme Earth (Nicola)

6th January:
Learn to identify and describe different types of weather.
Begin recording weather patterns using simple tools.
Recognise different types of clouds and learn their names.
Understand that some weather events can become natural disasters.
Explore how plants and objects (such as pinecones) respond to changes in weather.
13th January:
Understand that wind is moving air and can vary in strength.
Learn how tornadoes form and why they are powerful.
Explore air pressure through simple experiments.
Create and order their own wind scale to describe wind strength.
Use scientific vocabulary to describe windy weather.
20th January:
Learn about the water cycle and how rain forms.
Understand how thunderstorms and lightning occur.
Explore static electricity through hands-on experiments.
Learn basic safety rules for thunderstorms.
Begin to understand the impact of global warming, including flooding risks and melting ice caps.



27th January:

Learn how volcanoes form and why they erupt.

Label and describe the main parts of a volcano.

Use models to explore how scientists explain volcanic eruptions.

Recognise volcanoes as natural hazards that can affect people and the environment.

3rd February:

Learn how snow and ice form.

Understand why snowflakes have different shapes.

Explore how ice melts and what affects the speed of melting.

Discover the science behind artificial snow and absorbent materials.

10th February:

Learn what causes earthquakes and how they affect buildings.

Explore how engineers design structures to withstand earthquakes.

Test different building designs using models.

Learn how rainbows form and identify the colours of the rainbow.

Understand that white light is made up of many colours.