KS1 Autumn 2 - 2026
Kings, Queens and Castles

History

Kings, Queens and Castles
We will explore the question "Where did kings and queens live through time?". Children will use evidence to find out about the past, learn why castles were built and investigate their features. We will discover significant monarchs, including William I, Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria and Elizabeth II, comparing their lives and royal residences.

Computing

We will practice counting and comparing information, entering data and creating pictograms. Children will explore attributes, compare people and learn how to present information clearly.

RE

Why Does Christmas Matter to Christians? We will be learning to explore the Christian story of Jesus' birth and understand who Jesus was. We will discover why Christians prepare and wait for Christmas, reflect on what they are thankful for, and learn how the nativity story guides Christian beliefs and celebrations. We will also take part in our own nativity performance.

PE

Gymnastics - Animals
Through animal-themed gymnastics, children will practice travelling, stretching, jumps, balances, rolls and safe landings, building coordination and control. They will link movements into sequences and perform them safely using floor space and suitable apparatus.

Music

Singing: We will be learning to sing songs from memory, use our voices to explore high and low pitches, and sing lyrics clearly and accurately. We will practise controlling our breathing, adding actions to songs and working together as a group. We will also perform our class nativity and own musical compositions.

PSHE

Our school value this half term is Community. We will be exploring how to build positive relationships, develop friendships and show kindness and respect towards others. We will also be learning about recognising and managing our emotions, understanding our feelings and making safe and healthy choices



Design technology

Making a chair for a bear
We will investigate how to make strong, stable structures. First, children will evaluate existing chairs, then explore how different shapes affect the strength of towers and how the thickness of materials affects strength. They will use what they have learnt to make a sturdy chair for a bear, before testing, evaluating, improving and finishing their designs.

Maths

Year 1: Addition and subtraction
We will develop subtraction skills by finding a part, taking away and using number lines. Children will explore fact families and practise adding or subtracting 1 or 2.
Year 2: Addition and subtraction
We will build on addition and subtraction, including crossing tens, finding 10 more or less, adding and subtracting tens and two-digit numbers, comparing number sentences and solving missing-number problems.
Year 1 and 2 Shape:
Both year groups will explore 2-D and 3-D shapes, including sides, vertices, faces, edges, symmetry and shape patterns.

Science

Identifying Animals: We will be learning to identify and describe a variety of animals, including pets, mammals, birds, reptiles, fish and amphibians. We will compare their features, explore their life cycles and discover what different animals eat. We will also sort animals into groups and collect, present and interpret data about pets and minibeasts.

English

Year 1: Using 'The Princess and the Wizard', children will retell parts of the story in sentences, making simple changes. They will then use 'Dragon Post' and 'Pet Dragon' to write illustrated instructions for caring for a dragon. Across both units, we will focus on capital letters, full stops, spaces, description and joining ideas with "and".
Year 2: Using 'The Princess and the Wizard' children will adapt and re-write a section of the text using their own ideas. They will then use 'Dragon Post' and 'Pet Dragon' to write a letter with instructions. We will focus on the use of conjunctions to add detail and connect related ideas, and will look at different sentence types, particularly commands.