



1900s



Now

Year 2 Newsletter

How was school different in the past?



What we are learning about:

Summer 2 2026

Our topic/ theme this half term is: How was school different in the past?

History: In history we will be learning about schools from the past and comparing them to schools today. We will learn to correctly order and date on a timeline, make comparisons between schools in the past and present, looking at similarities and differences between them.

Art and Design: In art we will be working on our topic Craft and Design: map it out. Throughout this topic we will further demonstrate increased control with a greater range of media, use hands and tools with confidence when cutting, shaping and joining paper, card and malleable materials and talk about art we have seen using some appropriate subject vocabulary.

Music: Our topic in Music is called 'Let's Perform Together!' Throughout the unit we will refer to the question 'How Does Music Teach Us About Looking After Our Planet?'. Singing and listening will be at the heart of each lesson and we will play, improvise and compose using a selection of these notes: C, D, E, F, F#, G, A.

Computing: In Computing we will be learning ways to present ideas in different ways using PurpleMash.

P.E: In PE we will think about what we can do well and follow simple rules while completing activities to improve static and dynamic balance, agility, reaction and response, and hand-eye coordination.

PSHE: In PSHE we will consolidate our understanding of how babies develop into children and then into adults and will consider our own physical development. We will be able to explain that a baby human or animal grows inside its mother. We will think about our responsibilities and how these have changed since we were a baby. We will then consider what babies and young children need to stay healthy and safe. The main themes covered in this unit are 'the human life cycle', 'growing up', 'personal responsibilities' and 'parents, carers and families'.

R.E: In R.E we will draw on our understanding of what it means to belong, and then relate it to how children are given a sense of belonging in four religions: Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Sikhism.

Science: In Science we will be revisiting our learning of materials and extending our understanding of different materials and their properties.

English

Reading: The children will continue to grow their confidence reading unfamiliar words and building their fluency. We will also continue to develop our prosody skills, understanding how we adapt or change our voices to match the tone of the text. In addition, securing our comprehension techniques, e.g. looking at the picture or key vocabulary in the text to support our understanding.

Writing: Our first model text this half term is from a book called 'The Bear and the Piano'. The book is about a bear who found a piano in the forest. He practiced every day for years and years. He dreamed of becoming famous and so he travelled to busy cities around the globe to play in large theatres. After a while, he realised that he missed his family. He travelled home to find his friends and family waiting for him to play for them, which he thought was the best audience of all. For this piece of writing, we will aim to secure our use of appropriate adjectives for expanded noun phrases, conjunctions and suffixes.

Maths: In Maths this half term, we will first focus on statistics looking at how we gather and record data in different ways. We will then move onto position and directions, learning about the language used for positions and directions and describe movement and turns. We will then consolidate our learning for the year.

Key Vocabulary:

Maths: statistics, record, data, collect, gather, bar graph, tally chart, tally, position, directions, turn, half turn, whole turn, quarter turn, movement

English: grapheme phoneme correspondence (GPC), grapheme, phoneme, digraph, trigraph, blend, segment, capital letter, full stop, question mark, exclamation mark, conjunction, story map, fiction, non-fiction, narrative, description, suffixes, prefixes, adjectives, commas in a list, contracted forms.

Science: material, property, glass is transparent, rigid, weatherproof, everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard

Topic: Past, timeline, date, different, decade, present, important, similar, modern, living memory, evidence, source, decade, beyond living memory, preferred, Abstract, composition, curator, design, design brief, evaluate, felt, fibre, gallery, imaginary, inspired, landmarks, mosaic, overlap, pattern shape, stained glass, texture, viewfinder, belong, groups, community