



Sticks, Stones and Dinosaur Bones



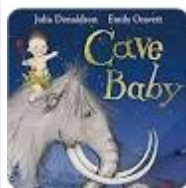
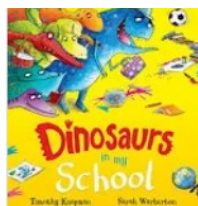
Year R Curriculum
Spring Term 1

Welcome Back!

We hope you had a restful holiday. It's wonderful to see the children back, ready for an exciting half-term of learning and discovery!

Dinosaurs Have Invaded Our School!

This term, a dinosaur might have visited our school! The children are finding clues, enjoying Dinosaurs in My School, drawing dinosaurs, and coming up with ways to guide them out. They'll read dinosaur-themed books, watch a clip from Dawn of the Dinosaurs, and design their own dinosaur worlds, crossing the Valley of Doom!



Journey Story

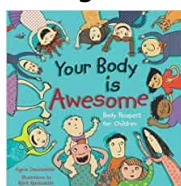
We'll also explore a journey story Cave Baby, focusing on writing labels, lists, and joining in with repeated language and rhyme



Mary Anning

In our mini History topic, the children will learn about the remarkable Mary Anning. They'll discover how this young girl, who lived by the sea in Lyme Regis, found incredible dinosaur fossils while collecting shells on the beach. Mary's story is an inspiring glimpse into the past and a wonderful way to bring history to life for our budding palaeontologists!

In PSHE we will also be reading the story of 'Your Body is Awesome', learning about looking after our bodies and keeping healthy.



School Visit

At the end of January and beginning of February each Year R class will be walking to Aldershot library for a visit.

We will use this walk as an opportunity to follow a map from our school to the library, looking at the features of a town. We will send home a letter shortly outlining the library visit, asking for parent volunteers to walk with us. The children will then bring home some information explaining how they can register to be a library member if they are not already.



Understanding the World

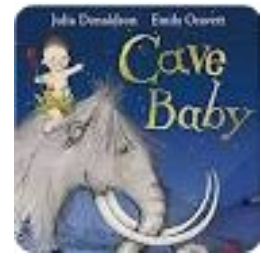
The children will also look at various cave paintings and have a go at making their own large scale paintings.



They will then explore how their life in Aldershot, UK is different to how people live in Fiji and also see how some people live in caves in China.



Different people, different places



Phonics & Reading



The children are making fantastic progress with their reading! Please make sure you listen to them read at least **3 times a week** at home, and don't forget to share their school library book with them at bedtime each night—it's a lovely way to end the day. The letter mat above shows the phonics we'll be focusing on this half term. All the children have now learned the single letter sounds of the alphabet, and we are moving on to digraphs—two letters that work together to make one sound (for example, *sh*, *ch*, *th*).sound) and trigraphs (3 letters that make one sound)

Music and Dance Chinese New Year

In the final week of this half term, our theme will be *Celebrations Around the World*. We'll continue discovering how different cultures celebrate special occasions, with a special focus on Chinese New Year. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about unique traditions, enjoy exciting activities, and celebrate the rich diversity within our community.

Our music learning this term will also take place this week, as we learn how to keep a steady beat and perform together to create an exciting dragon dance!



Maths



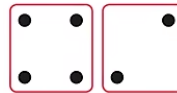
For maths this half term the children will continue to develop their subitising skills within 5, with a focus on recognizing die patterns and matching numerals to quantities.

They will explore the 'staircase' pattern in counting, seeing how each number is one more than the previous. There will be a special focus on understanding 5, and seeing 6 and 7 as '5 and a bit.'

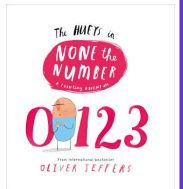
For example here they can see 2 and 3 which is 5.



Here they can see 4 and 2 which makes 6 altogether.



Through comparing sets, they'll use language such as more than, fewer than, and equal to, and work on making unequal sets equal. These activities will strengthen their number sense and problem-solving abilities!



Measures



The children will also experience mathematical concepts of length, height, time and weight.

Water is precious

In our RE topic this half term, we will be thinking about why water is precious. We will think about what we need and use water for. The children will learn why water is precious to Christians when we talk about baptism. We will also learn about why the River Ganges is important to Hindus. The children will learn two water related poems called 'Pitter patter' and 'Stepping stones'.

PE days:

The children will continue to have weekly PE lessons on the following days:

Fox and Mole Class—Wednesdays
Rabbit and Hedgehog Class—Wednesdays
Badger and Squirrel Class—Fridays

Class teachers' emails

n.osborn@talavera-inf.hants.sch.uk—Early Years Leader and Fox and Mole Class
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