


# Year 1 Spring Overview

	Spring 1	Spring 2
English	<p><b>Information Text- Biography - Neil Armstrong</b>            In our non-fiction biography writing unit about astronauts, we learn all about Buzz Aldrin's life and achievements, helping us understand what makes a biography and its key features. We practice using the conjunction "and" to join ideas, and we learn to use the suffixes "ing" and "ed" in our writing. We also learn how to write factual sentences and when to use question marks correctly. After researching facts about Neil Armstrong, we create a plan and use it to write our own biography about this famous astronaut, building our skills in writing clear and informative biographies.</p> <p><b>Traditional Tale - The Great Race</b>            In our Traditional Tale writing unit, we explore <i>The Great Race</i>, a story from the Chinese Zodiac. We learn the sequence and structure of the story, practicing how to retell it using clear steps. To make our sentences stronger, we use the conjunctions "and" and "but," and we learn how to use plural words correctly. We also add adjectives to describe characters and events, making our writing more engaging for the reader. After studying the original story, we innovate by creating our own versions of a traditional tale, using the grammar and writing skills we've developed throughout Year 1.</p>	<p><b>Recount - The Zoolab Visit</b>            In our exciting non-fiction Recount writing unit, we learn what a recount is and the important features it includes. We even have an amazing visit from Zoolab, a company that brings fascinating animals right into our classroom to educate and inspire us through safe, ethical animal encounters. We use adjectives to describe the animals we saw, and we practice writing in the past tense with time words to show the order of events. After planning our ideas, we write our own recount of the Zoolab visit, using all the features of a recount and the grammar skills we've learned in Year 1.</p> <p><b>A Cumulative Tale - The Enormous Turnip</b>            In our narrative writing unit on cumulative tales, we learn <i>The Enormous Turnip</i> by using actions and story maps, which help us retell and internalize the story's sequence. We focus on oracy skills, building our sentences verbally before writing them down in coherent sentences. Punctuation is a key focus, as we make sure each sentence is correctly punctuated. After learning the original tale, we innovate by creating and verbally retelling our own versions of a cumulative tale. Finally, we plan and write our own stories, using exciting vocabulary to bring our tales to life.</p>
Maths	<p><b>Number - Place Value within 20</b>            In Year 1, our maths unit on place value to 20 builds on our understanding of numbers by exploring teen numbers in more depth. Children will learn to count, order, and compare numbers up to 20, focusing on understanding the value of tens and ones. Through practical activities like using base-ten equipment, number lines, and counting objects, they'll develop confidence in breaking numbers into parts and recognizing patterns.</p> <p><b>Number - Addition and Subtraction within 20</b>            This unit in addition and subtraction to 20 builds on previous learning to develop confidence with larger numbers. We will explore a variety of strategies, such as using number lines, counting on and back, and applying number bonds to solve addition and subtraction problems within 20. Practical activities and problem-solving tasks will help them understand the relationships between numbers and operations.</p>	<p><b>Number - Place Value within 50</b>            Our maths unit on place value within 50 helps us to deepen our understanding of numbers by exploring how tens and ones work in two-digit numbers. Children will practice counting, ordering, and comparing numbers up to 50, using tools like number lines, base-ten equipment, and grouping objects into tens. They'll also start to recognise patterns, such as the sequence of numbers and their relationships.</p> <p><b>Measurement - Length and Height</b>            Our length and height unit introduces children to the concepts of comparing and measuring. We will use everyday language such as "longer," "shorter," "taller," and "smaller" to describe objects. We will also practice measuring length and height using non-standard units like cubes or hand spans, before beginning to explore standard units such as centimeters. Through hands-on activities and problem-solving tasks, this unit helps develop our understanding of measurement and spatial reasoning.</p> <p><b>Measurement - Mass and Volume</b>            Our measurement unit on mass and volume introduces children to comparing and measuring weight and capacity. We will explore terms like "heavier," "lighter," "full," and "empty" through hands-on activities using real objects and containers. They will practice using non-standard units, such as cubes or cups, to measure and compare.</p>

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<p>Science</p>	<p><b>Seasonal Changes - Winter into Spring</b></p> <p>This 'Seasonal Changes (Winter and Spring)' unit will teach the class about the four seasons, with a particular focus on Winter and Spring. Children will use a class weather station to observe, measure and record the weather across the seasons. They will also observe changes across the seasons by exploring the signs of autumn and winter through nature and wildlife. A range of learning activities are used in this unit including observation, discussion and learning outside. Children also work scientifically by collecting, recording and interpreting simple data. We will also record and observe the changes in a sycamore tree at the front of school through the seasons.</p> <p><b>Scientist Study - Mae Jemison</b></p> <p>In our Year 1 Science unit, we will learn about Mae Jemison, the first African American woman to travel into space. Children will explore her life and achievements, discovering how she became an astronaut and scientist. Through stories, videos, and fun activities, we will discuss her contributions to space exploration and how she inspires others to follow their dreams, no matter their background.</p>	<p><b>Plants</b></p> <p>In this unit about plants, children will learn to name the basic parts of a plant, including seeds. They will have the opportunity to plant their own seeds and to make observations of how they grow over time. Children will also learn to identify, name and describe a variety of garden and wild plants as well as evergreen and deciduous trees. In their final lesson, the children will use all of their knowledge gained throughout the topic to identify, compare and classify plants. We will also look at plants found within the Brazilian rainforest</p> <p><b>British Science Week</b></p> <p>Each year, Year 1 takes part in British Science Week, an exciting time where we explore the wonders of science through a variety of hands-on activities. The theme of British Science Week changes every year, and we tailor our activities to match, ensuring that the children engage with relevant and exciting scientific concepts. During this week, children will participate in experiments, creative challenges, and discussions that spark their curiosity and deepen their understanding of science.</p>
<p>Art</p>	<p><b>Printing Skills Focus</b></p> <p>In our Year 1 Art unit, we will focus on printing and explore the work of the artist Chris Ofili. Children will learn about his unique style, using bright colours, patterns, and textures, and how he incorporates different materials into his artwork. Through hands-on activities, students will experiment with printing techniques, creating their own prints inspired by Ofili's artwork. This unit will help children develop their creative skills, explore texture and pattern, and gain an appreciation for the ways artists use different mediums to express their ideas.</p>	
<p>Computing</p>	<p><b>Making Multimedia Stories</b></p> <p>In our Year 1 Computing unit, <i>Making Multimedia Stories</i>, children will have the opportunity to create their own stories by combining text, images, animation, and sound. This creative project allows them to explore how multimedia elements can work together to tell a story. Alongside this, we will focus on developing essential keyboard skills, encouraging children to begin typing with both hands.</p>	<p><b>Action Algorithms</b></p> <p>In our Year 1 Computing unit, <i>Action Algorithms</i>, children will learn how to create and follow simple algorithms using iPads and the 2Simple program, along with practical resources. They will explore how to link instructions to make things happen, such as guiding a character or object to move in a specific way. The children will write their own algorithms, test them, and then make corrections if needed, helping them understand the process of problem-solving and refining their work. This unit introduces key concepts of programming and logical thinking in a fun and interactive way.</p>
<p>Design and Technology</p>	<p><b>Moving Pictures - Space and Aliens</b></p> <p>In our Year 1 Design and Technology unit, <i>Moving Pictures - Space and Aliens</i>, children will explore mechanisms by creating their own moving pictures inspired by the story "A Day in the Life of Bob." They will learn about different types of mechanisms, such as levers, wheels, and sliders, and how these can be used to make characters move in a picture. After listening to the story, children will sketch their own designs, then use these mechanisms to bring their ideas to life. Once their moving pictures are complete, they will evaluate their work, reflecting on what went well and how they could improve their designs. This unit helps children develop creativity, problem-solving skills, and an understanding of how things work.</p>	

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<p>French</p>	<p><b>Language Angels - Les transports (Transport)</b>          In this unit, pupils will explore seven modes of transport in French, learning the nouns along with their definite articles. Through colourful, engaging lessons, students will develop vocabulary and recognition skills in a fun, immersive way. Each lesson features a catchy song designed to encourage active participation, helping children remember the words and enjoy the learning process.</p>	<p><b>Language Angels - Dans la jungle (In the Jungle)</b>          In this unit, pupils will learn seven jungle animals in French, focusing on nouns and their definite articles. Children will explore vocabulary in engaging contexts. Each lesson will be accompanied by a song that pupils will be encouraged to actively participate in. By the end of the unit, pupils will confidently recognize and use the names of jungle animals with correct articles, building a strong foundation for further language learning.</p>
<p>Geography</p>	<p><b>Brazil - Similarities and Differences between the UK and Brazil: Continents (Locational knowledge)</b>          In Year 1, we will learn all about Brazil as part of our geography topic, focusing on the similarities and differences between Brazil and the UK. The children will be able to locate South America, Brazil, and major Brazilian cities on a map. We'll explore the physical and human features of Brazil, such as its famous rainforests, cities, and landmarks. The children will also learn what a rainforest is, and which animals live there, like jaguars and toucans. Additionally, we will discuss some of Brazil's main exports, such as coffee and sugar. By comparing Brazil with the UK, the children will develop a deeper understanding of the world and how different countries are connected.</p>	
<p>History</p>	<p><b>Race to Space - Significant Person - Neil Armstrong</b>          In Year 1, our history topic this term is "Race to Space," where we will focus on the life of Neil Armstrong, a significant individual in the past. Through a range of exciting lessons, the children will learn about Neil Armstrong's life, his famous Apollo 11 mission, the historic moon landing, and his iconic first steps on the moon. They will explore the meaning of the word 'chronological' and practice putting key events in space exploration in the correct order. To bring the topic to life, we will watch video footage of the moon landing, discuss when and where it happened, and explore how craters are formed through a fun experiment. We will also make links to Mae Jemison, the first African American woman in space, and encourage the children to think about their own dreams and ambitions. This topic will be enriched with creative activities that link history with science, helping the children develop a deeper understanding of these significant historical events.</p>	
<p>Music</p>	<p><b>Charanga - In the Groove</b>          In our Year 1 Music unit, <i>In the Groove</i>, children will explore different styles of music through a fun and easy-to-learn song. The song has been specially arranged in six styles: Blues, Baroque, Latin, Bhangra, Folk, and Funk. Each week, we will focus on a different style, listening to the music and learning to sing along. This unit will help children appreciate the variety of musical genres, develop their listening skills, and understand how music can sound different depending on the style. It's a lively and engaging way for the children to discover the world of music!</p>	<p><b>Charanga - Round and Round</b>          In our Year 1 Music unit, <i>Round and Round</i>, children will explore a Bossa Nova Latin style song over six weeks. The focus is on the song <i>Round and Round</i>, and throughout the unit, children will engage in games, practice the dimensions of music (such as pulse, rhythm, and pitch), and have opportunities to sing and play instruments. The material provides an integrated approach to music, where all the elements are linked together to help children develop their musical skills in a fun and interactive way.</p> <p><b>Easter Celebration Songs</b></p>
<p>PE</p>	<p><b>Gymnastics - (NT Lessons 7-12)</b>          In this Year 1 PE Gymnastics unit, children will develop their floor work by learning to move smoothly from one position to another using stepping, rocking, and rolling. They will practise joining different actions together to create simple sequences, building coordination and balance. A key focus will be on learning to jump and land safely, developing confidence in their movements and body control.</p> <p><b>Outdoor Games - Send and Return 1 (PE Hub)</b>          In our Year 1 PE unit, <i>Send and Return</i>, children will develop their skills in sending and returning a variety of balls with increased confidence. They will practise sending an object, either with their hands or a bat, and moving towards a moving ball to return it accurately. Through fun activities and games, children will improve their coordination, control, and timing, while building their confidence in working with different types of balls.</p>	<p><b>Dance 2 - (PE Hub)</b>          In our Year 1 PE Dance unit, children will begin to perform using more sophisticated formations, building on their basic movement skills. They will learn to copy, repeat, and create dance actions and motifs, developing their creativity and coordination. Through fun and engaging activities, children will work together to explore different ways to move, express ideas, and tell stories through dance.</p> <p><b>Outdoor Games - Run, Jump and Throw (PE Hub - Unit 1)</b>          In our Year 1 PE unit, <i>Run, Jump and Throw</i>, children will begin to link running and jumping movements together, developing their coordination and agility. They will learn and refine a range of running techniques to help improve speed and control. Additionally, children will focus on developing their throwing skills, practising techniques to throw over longer distances with accuracy and power.</p>

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PSHE	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Team</b></p> <p>This unit is inspired by the idea that if a team works well together, it has a positive impact on all of its members and what they can achieve. It aims to enable the children to develop successful collaborative working skills, such as good listening. In this unit, children learn about the importance of being kind to others, the effects of bullying and teasing and what to do about it if they see it happening, or it happens to them. They will also think about effective learning skills and how to identify good and not-so-good choices.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Britain</b></p> <p>This topic aims to explore what a community is and what it means to belong to the school community. Use the lesson plans, lesson presentations, worksheets and additional resources to encourage the children to identify what helps and harms the school community and how they can have a positive impact upon it. These resources have been produced to be fully in line with the Learning Outcomes and Core Themes outlined in the PSHE Association Programme of Study which is widely used by schools in England and is recommended and referred to by the DfE in all key documentation relating to PSHE provision in schools.</p>
RE	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Why is Jesus special to Christians?</b></p> <p>In our Year 1 RE unit, <i>Why is Jesus special to Christians?</i>, children will explore the life and teachings of Jesus and why he is so important to Christians. They will learn about key events in Jesus' life, such as his birth, his miracles, and his messages of love and kindness. Through stories, discussions, and activities, children will begin to understand how Christians see Jesus as a role model and a figure of love, compassion, and forgiveness.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What is the Easter Story?</b></p> <p>In this Year 1 RE unit, <i>What is the Easter Story?</i>, children will explore the key events of the Easter story, focusing on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. They will learn about the special significance of Easter for Christians, understanding how it represents hope, new beginnings, and the belief in the power of love and forgiveness. Through storytelling, discussions, and creative activities, children will begin to understand why Easter is such an important celebration in the Christian faith and reflect on the themes of love, sacrifice, and rebirth.</p>