

Minnow Class Newsletter Summer Term 2025

Welcome back Minnow Class! I hope you had a wonderful Easter break and spent time in the lovely sunshine!

Here are our topics for the Summer Term:

Sunshine and Sunflowers

In the Sunshine and Sunflowers project your child will explore their local environment and see how it has changed throughout the year.

They will grow flowers, fruit and vegetables in the garden area. They will learn how to care for plants and animals, identifying some different types. They will take part in outdoor learning activities and find out how to stay safe in the sun.



Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Grow some quick growing plants together, such as salad leaves, radishes or cress.
- Plan and go on a picnic.
- Go on a local walk and talk about the changes that have happened to living things throughout the year.

Big Wide World

In the Big Wide World project, your child will find out about the world in which they live. They will learn about different climates and explore habitats, including their flora and fauna. They will locate the United Kingdom on a world map and compare life in the United Kingdom with life elsewhere. They will also learn about caring for their environment, both locally and beyond.



Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Use Google Earth or other map tools to explore where you live and look up places you would like to visit.
- Talk about places around the world you have visited, or places that family members or friends live. Look at the places on a map and talk about ways to travel.
- If you go on holiday, bring back a postcard or photos to school to show where you went.

CURRICULUM AREAS

Maths

Reception: (White Rose Maths scheme) To 20 and beyond, How many now?, Manipulate, compose and decompose, Sharing and grouping, Visualise, build and map, Make connections.

Year 1 in Starfish Class: (White Rose Maths scheme) Place Value to 100, Multiplication and division, Fractions, Money, Time Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

Literacy/ English

Key texts for Sunshine and Sunflowers include: The Tiny Seed, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, as well as non-fiction books about growing plants and insects.

Key texts for Big Wide World include: All Are Welcome, Handa's Surprise, The Snail and the Whale, Somebody Swallowed Stanley, as well as non-fiction books on animals and living things, the world.

Reception children will be developing their writing of initial sounds, cvc words and short sentences (using a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop) this term. We will continue to develop letter formation through daily writing activities.

Year 1 English in Starfish Class includes: Non-fiction recount and Poetry.

Understanding the World

Past and present, People culture and communities, the natural world.

R.E: Special stories (God/Creation) and (Jesus).

Year 1 Science: Plant Parts.

Year 1 Topic (including Geography and History): map work UK and the World. The local area.

Expressive Arts and Design

Creating with materials, being imaginative and expressive.

PSED

Self-regulation; Managing self, building relationships. PSHE Scarf topics: Being My Best, Growing and Changing.

Physical development

P.E with Mr Bulbeck will be taught on Tuesday mornings for YR next term, so please ensure that your child has their P.E kit on this day. Please note: **Y1 now have P.E with Starfish Class on Monday mornings and need to come into school wearing their kit.** Shorts/ joggers, t-shirts, a change of socks and trainers are needed. Please ensure that everything in your child's PE kit is clearly labelled. Wherever possible, P.E will take place outside so please ensure that your child has suitable clothing (sun hats etc.).

School trip

Minnow Class are going on a school trip alongside Starfish Class to Carymoor on Wednesday 30th April, linking with our topics Sunshine and Sunflowers and the Y1 Science topic Plant Parts. We are very excited for a trip outside of school and to make new memories together.



Please ensure you read the trip letter for information on what to bring and what to wear. We recommend wearing long trousers rather than shorts or skirts, as there is a chance of picking up ticks on the site. Please bring wellies to change into, if your child has not got theirs in school.

Summer Weather

It is essential that children have appropriate clothing for the weather for time spent outside. Please ensure that your child comes to school with a **named sunhat** during sunny weather.



It would be helpful if children had sun cream applied before school and even on sunny days, it is important that children have their jumper in school. A polite reminder to have jumpers labelled as these can get lost and this helps us get them back to you!

Year 1 Important Information

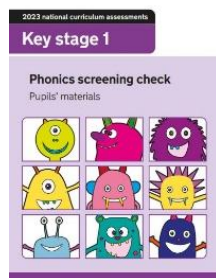
Children in Year 1 are expected to complete **weekly** Maths homework on Numbots to practise their number facts. This is checked on Mondays and children will continue to receive a sticker in their yellow log for doing their homework each week.



Children will continue to be given spellings to learn at home to support their writing in class. These are usually '**red words**' from our RWInc lessons that the children learn by reading and writing that week. Sometimes these words repeat. Please practise these at home ready for a check on Mondays.

The Phonics Screening Check

will take place in June for children in Year 1. We have been practising as part of our phonic sessions to prepare. To support this at home it would be helpful if you continue to help your child learn their sounds and read with your child every day.



Reception Red Words

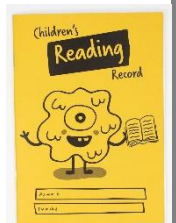
Please continue to use your **red word** key ring to practise at home. **Red words** are words that are tricky which cannot be sounded out so children need lots of practise at visually seeing them to learn them by sight.

I	the
you	your
said	was

Please keep your keyring safe in your child's book bag so that we can add more words as we learn them in class. Please can you return your child's keyring at the end of the year in July.

Yellow Reading Logs

Please continue to write in your child's yellow reading log daily to update us on how your child has read.



We monitor how often children are reading at home and those who read 5 times a week receive a golden ticket and are entered into a class prize draw to win a book token where they get to choose a book from the library's vending machine!



Reports

In July, you will receive a written report outlining the progress and achievements that your child made this year in comparison to the Early Learning Goals in EYFS or the National Curriculum expectations in Y1. If you have any other queries or questions, please speak to me directly at pick up by the classroom.

Many thanks,
Miss Cordwent