Topic Snapshot – Year 1

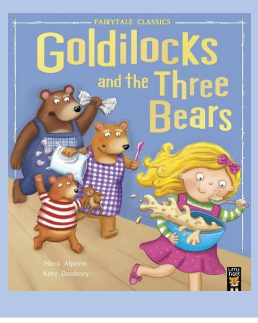
Term 2: Enchanted Woodland

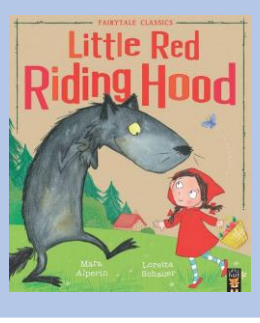
English

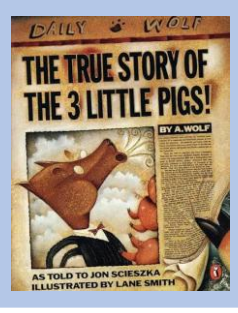
Phonics
We have daily Phonics lessons, following the Read Write Inc. (RWI) programme. Children will be grouped with pupils from across the school to ensure they receive the correct level of support and challenge. They will continue to develop their phonics knowledge and use this as their main strategy for decoding and reading unfamiliar words.
Please support your child by reading their Read Write Inc. phonics book, which is kept in their book bag, every day. Regular reading at home makes a huge difference to children's confidence and progress.

Writing
This term, our writing will be inspired by our **Enchanted Woodland** theme and a range of engaging traditional tales, including *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, *Little Red Riding Hood* and *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*.
Through these stories, children will explore different writing styles and develop their ability to write for a range of purposes. Some of our exciting writing outcomes will include a letter of apology from Goldilocks, a news report and interview, character descriptions and story retells.
Throughout the term, children will be encouraged to write familiar words and key vocabulary correctly from memory, while using their phonics knowledge to sound out and spell unfamiliar words.
Handwriting will also be a key focus. Children will continue to practise forming letters in the correct direction, ensuring letters are the correct size and sit neatly on the line.
Try this at home: Share a favourite traditional tale with your child. Can they retell the story in their own words? You could also ask them to write a short apology from one of the characters, describe their favourite character or create their own alternative ending. Encourage them to sound out unfamiliar words independently.

Reading
Children will continue to read phonetically decodable books and develop a love and enjoyment of reading. Alongside their daily phonics lessons, each child will read one-to-one with their class teacher every week.
Please ensure your child brings their **book bag and reading log book to school every day**. We really appreciate your support with regular reading at home, as this helps children to build fluency, confidence and a lifelong love of books. Could you please ensure that you sign the children's reading logs when you have read with them.







Mathematics:

This term, we will be developing the children's understanding of measurement through practical activities, where they will compare different objects and use mathematical stem sentences to explain their thinking. Children will explore and compare quantities, developing their confidence in using mathematical vocabulary to describe what they notice.

We will also be focusing on part-whole relationships, helping children to understand how numbers can be made up of smaller parts and exploring different ways to make numbers to 5. Alongside this, children will develop their understanding of 2D and 3D shapes, learning to recognise, describe and compare their properties.

Throughout the term, we will use practical resources, games and hands-on activities to encourage children to explore mathematical ideas, explain their reasoning and make connections in their learning.

Try this at home: Look for opportunities to compare objects around the house. Ask your child questions such as, "Which is longer?", "Which is heavier?" or "How do you know?" Practise making numbers to 5 using fingers, toys or everyday objects, and see if your child can spot and name different 2D and 3D shapes around them.

Geography:

This term, we will be exploring the fascinating world of animals, learning how to group and compare them based on their different features and characteristics. Children will investigate the differences between carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, developing their understanding of what animals eat and how they are suited to their environments. We will also explore the world of pets, thinking about the different animals people keep and how we care for them.

An exciting part of our learning journey will be discovering the work of Jane Goodall, a famous scientist and animal expert, and finding out about her important contributions to understanding and protecting animals. Throughout the term, children will develop their observation, research and communication skills before bringing their learning together to create an animal report, sharing what they have discovered about different animals and their features.

Try this at home: Talk about different animals your child knows. Can they describe their features and explain whether they are a carnivore, herbivore or omnivore? Look at pictures or books about animals and discuss how they are similar or different. You could also talk about any pets you have or animals you might see in your local area.



Science:

This term, children will be investigating seasonal weather changes and exploring how the world around us changes throughout the year. They will learn about the different seasons, identifying changes in weather, temperature and the natural environment. Children will also explore how animals behave during different seasons, thinking about how changes in the weather and their surroundings can affect them.

Throughout the term, children will take part in practical observations and investigations, including carrying out an experiment to develop their scientific enquiry skills. They will be encouraged to ask questions, make predictions, observe changes and talk about what they discover using scientific vocabulary.

Alongside this, we are excited to continue developing the children's map-making skills. They will create maps linked to familiar stories, using simple symbols and a key to represent different features and locations. This will help them develop their understanding of maps and how they can be used to communicate information.

Try this at home: Talk about the weather each day and how it changes. Can your child identify which season we are in and describe the signs of that season? Look out for changes in trees, plants and animal behaviour. You could also read a familiar story together and encourage your child to draw a simple map of the story setting, including a key to show important features.

Dance and PE:

We are fortunate to have our expert coaches from Bristol Rovers to take our PE lessons in Year 1. Our PE day will be Thursday, please send your child in with their PE kit on. T-shirt and shorts, a long sleeved top and track suit bottoms/leggings are suitable when the weather gets colder.

Please provide suitable shoes as if the weather is nice, the coaches will complete some activities outside. When they are inside, they are expected to go bare foot.



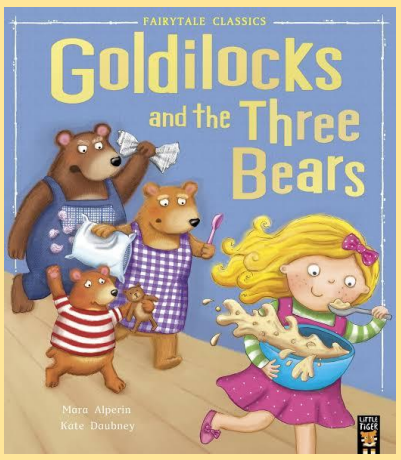
Design and Technology:

This term, children will be developing their designing, making and evaluating skills through an exciting project inspired by the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Children will be given the challenge of designing and making a strong and stable chair for Baby Bear using paper.



Children will explore how paper can be folded, shaped and joined in different ways to make it stronger and more stable. They will experiment with different construction techniques, develop their own design ideas and consider how well their chairs meet the needs of Baby Bear. Once they have made their chairs, children will test and evaluate their designs, thinking about what worked well and what they might improve.

Throughout the project, children will develop their creativity, problem-solving skills and understanding of how materials can be used to create products for a specific purpose.



Try this at home: Look at different chairs around your home. What makes them strong and stable? Can your child spot the different materials they are made from? You could also experiment with folding and shaping paper to see how strong it can become. Could your child design a chair for one of their favourite toys?

PSHE:

This term, our Jigsaw theme is **'Celebrating Difference'**. Children will explore what makes them unique and learn to recognise, appreciate and celebrate the similarities and differences between themselves and others. They will develop an understanding of the importance of being kind, accepting and respectful towards everyone.

Children will have opportunities to think about families, friendships and how everyone is special in their own way. They will explore how to show kindness, include others and celebrate what makes each person different. Throughout the unit, we will encourage children to share their thoughts and feelings, listen to others and develop positive relationships with those around them.

Try this at home: Talk to your child about what makes them special and the things that make your family unique. Discuss how people can be different in lots of ways and why it is important to be kind, respectful and accepting of everyone.

Jigsaw® The mindful approach to PSHE

Miss King and Mr Marles would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support throughout Term 1. The children have settled brilliantly and are doing incredibly well. We are so proud of the progress they are making, their enthusiasm for their learning and the wonderful attitudes they bring to school each day. We look forward to sharing and celebrating their individual successes with you during our upcoming parents' evenings.

Following the success of our last parent event, where the children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their learning and showcasing their work, we are delighted to be holding another opportunity for you to come into school and celebrate their achievements. We would love you to join us on **Monday 14th December at 2:45pm**, during the final week of term. We know how much the children value having the opportunity to share their learning with you, and we look forward to welcoming you into the school!