

**Our Learning Value:** Friendship



**Healthy Mind** – Relaxation (Relax Kids) Jigsaw (PSHE Scheme)

**SMSC** – Using the Jigsaw scheme our focus is ‘Dreams and Goals.’

**Mindfulness** - We are mindful citizens through showing mutual respect for one another and being kind friends to all. We will be exploring aspects of mindfulness through circle times and stories. Relax Kids, Go Noodle yoga.

**Healthy Body** – Independence in dressing and undressing, hand washing, toileting etc. PE, Daily Go Noodle; movement and dance. Travel tracker by WOW.

**PE** – Swimming

**Healthy Eating** – Phunky Foods workshop

**Core 1 - Reading**

Our theme for this half-term is ‘bravery vs fear’ and our first text will be ‘The Bear Under the Stairs’ by Helen Cooper. We will then move on to ‘The Minpins’ by Roald Dahl.

Children will be encouraged to read for pleasure often at school during their free time. They will read to/with an adult 3x per week in a small group to help to build the key skills of decoding, prosody, fluency and comprehension. Each class will visit the school library each week where they can access a wide range of books and storytelling resources.

**Core 2 - Writing**

We will continue to make progress towards meeting the end of key stage outcomes through our chosen texts with a focus on:

- Demarcating sentences with capital letters, full stops and question marks
- Using present and past tense correctly and consistently
- Spelling many common exception words
- Use co-ordination and subordination to join clauses

The children will write letters, retells and their own version narratives in weeks 1-3 and will then move on to writing letters of advice and short news reports. They will write in role, write retells of a familiar story and will create information posters.

**Core 3 – Maths**

We will follow the ‘White Rose Maths’ Scheme of Learning. *Money:* The children will count money (pounds and pence), calculate with money and find change from a set amount of money too. They will compare amounts of money and solve two-step problems involving money.

*Multiplication and division:* The children will re-visit recognising, making and adding equal groups. They will be introduced to the multiplication symbol and solve multiplication sentences using arrays, making equal groups by grouping and making equal groups by sharing. They will re-visit the 2 times-table and will learn how to divide by 2. We will learn how to double and half and will explore odd and even numbers.

**Core 4 - Science**

This half term, our topic will be ‘use of everyday materials.’ The children will learn to name objects with the same use that are made from different materials, to name materials that are used to make objects with different uses. They will recognise that stretching, twisting, bending and squashing can cause some solid objects to change shape and will name properties that make materials suitable for their use. We will work scientifically as we measure using non-standard units and record results in a table or block graph.

**Core 5 – Computing**

Through the use of ‘Purple Mash,’ children will focus on computer science through the topic of ‘coding.’ They will learn to understand and create an algorithm, to create a program using a given design and to understand the function of buttons in a program. They will learn what debugging means and will use this to help them to debug simple programs. We will also learn about online safety as we introduce email as a communication tool.

**Core 6 – Physical Education**

Children will learn about water safety and enjoyment of being in the water. They will learn how to travel. Float and submerge with increasing confidence. Children will learn to use legs and arms to propel them through the water and will be given the opportunity to work independently and with others. They will develop confidence to persevere with new and challenging situations.

**Lead 1 – Art**

Our topic this half-term is painting and mixed media – ‘Life in Colour.’ This unit focuses on teaching primary and secondary colours, colour mixing and creating textures using different tools. It also covers collage techniques, encouraging children to experiment with materials and evaluate their artistic choices. We aim develop the children’s understanding of colour, texture and composition in art.

**Lead 2 – Geography**

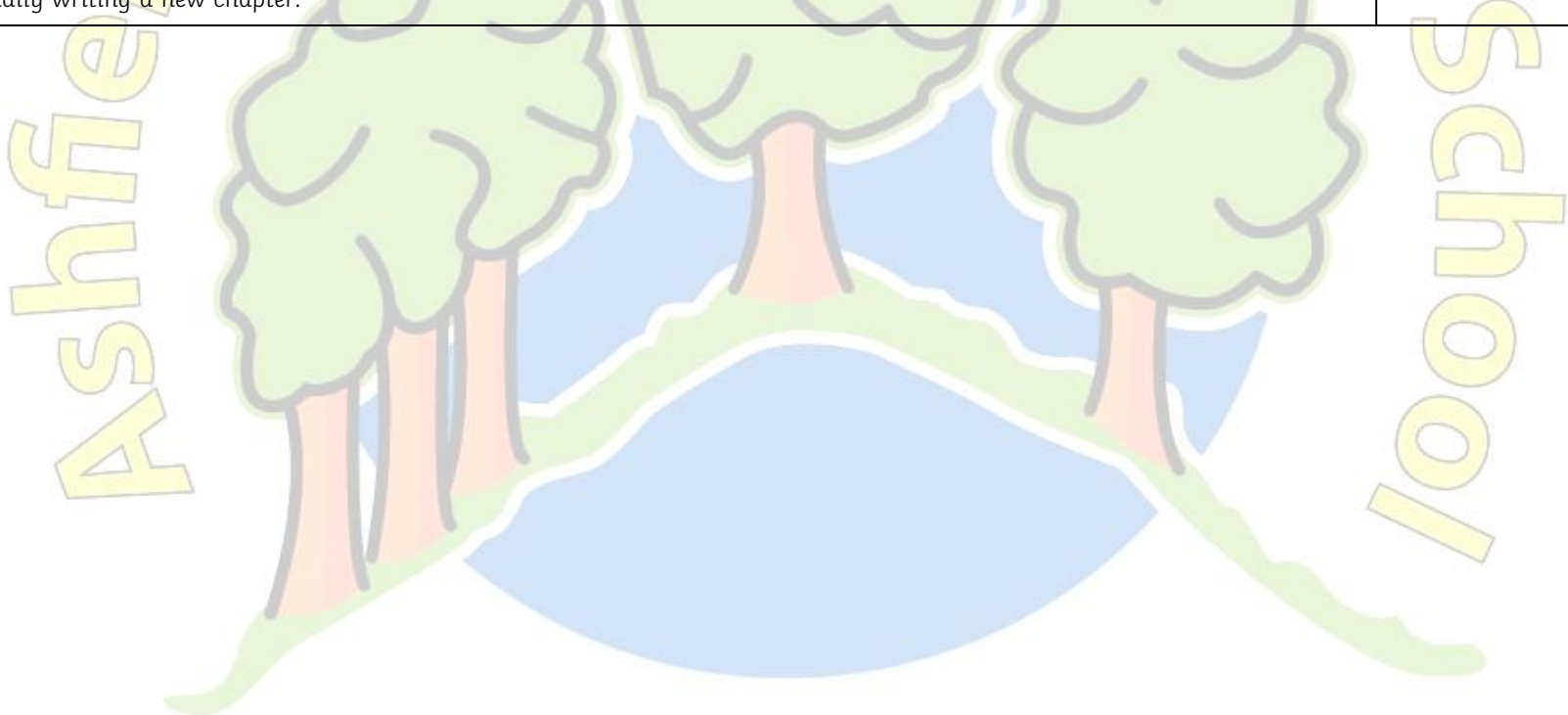
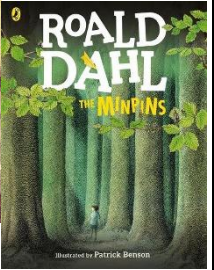
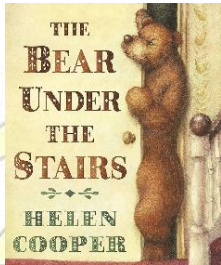
We will consider ‘why is our world wonderful?’ Children will learn to identify and locate characteristics of the UK on a map and to locate and identify human and physical features on a world map. They will explain the difference between oceans and seas and will also collect data by sketching their findings on a map and completing a tally chart, presenting their findings in a bar chart.

**Cultural Diversity - Music/Festivals**

*RE week* – This enquiry investigates ‘Who is God to the Jews?’ *Music* – Through the topic of the ‘Great Fire of London’, children explore dynamics, pulse, beat and rhythm using both western and graphic notation and interpreting dynamic symbols. They will create music in response to a non-musical stimulus, sing and perform on instruments and begin to develop knowledge and understanding of baroque music.



Spring 1 2026	Year: 2	Topic name: Fear vs Bravery
<p><b>Rationale:</b> Children will look at the book <i>The Bear Under the Stairs</i> and use it as a model to discuss their fears and how they dealt with them. Children will write letters of advice to the main character before writing their own story of a child who is scared of something that might be in the house. The sequence of learning finishes with children making comparisons between real bears and toy bears and using this as the basis for an information report about bears to give to William to help him feel less scared.</p> <p>'The Minpins' by Roald Dahl begins by engaging in the themes of the story by talking about danger and what they are allowed and not allowed to do, imagining gruesome consequences if they do not follow instructions! We will then go on to read and explore <i>The Minpins</i> and create character descriptions (for our own monsters and <i>The Minpins</i> themselves), retellings of key events, reports about <i>The Minpins</i> and eventually writing a new chapter.</p>		



### Our Learning Journey:

**Week 1:** We will be introduced to the story 'The Bear Under the Stairs' in English. We will learn how to identify the difference between a statement, a command and a question and we will learn to identify what a homophone is and to know how to apply one in context. We will write about a real experience using the past tense and how to write a letter in role as a character. In Maths, we will learn how to count money (pounds and pence), to choose notes and coins and to make the same amount using money. In Science, we will learn to recognise that objects are made from materials that suit their uses and we will work scientifically by recognising how objects can be grouped. In Geography, we are going to learn to identify geographical characteristics of the UK.

**Week 2:** This week in English we will retell a known story using full sentences and will learn how to distinguish between the different graphemes to help to improve spelling. We will create a plan for a story and will use this plan to create, write, and edit for improvements. This week in Maths, we will learn how to compare amounts of money and to calculate with money. We will learn how to make a pound, how to find change from a set amount and how to solve two-step problems that involve money. We will re-visit that objects are made from materials that suit their uses as we ask the question 'Which material is suitable?' In Geography, we will locate some of the world's most amazing places.

**Week 3:** We will learn to distinguish between fact and fiction and to use 'but' to create an opposite this week in English. We will create a formal report using the features of an information text and will edit our work for improvement. In Maths, we will move on to the topic of multiplication and division and will begin by recognising, making, and adding equal groups. We will be introduced to the multiplication symbol and will use this to understand and solve multiplication sentences. In Science this week we will recognise that the shape of some solid objects can be changed and we will record data in a table to show our findings. We will revisit the names of the five oceans and will locate them on a map in Geography.

**Week 4:** This week in English, we will read the story 'The Minpins'. We will begin by predicting story themes and outcomes by inferring and we will then create noun phrases to describe characters. We will learn to use a range of conjunctions and will identify and use verbs. In Maths, we will use arrays to help us to solve problems and to make equal groups by grouping and sharing. We will re-visit the 2 times-table as we learn to recite this and will learn how to divide by 2. In Science we will compare the suitability of materials for particular uses and in Geography we will learn to understand how to draw human and physical features on a sketch map.

**Week 5:** In English we will use suffixes as we write character descriptions from different viewpoints. We will identify and use past and present tense and will use the possessive apostrophe as we write luggage labels for items. We will return to our sentences from the previous session and rewrite them using the appropriate conjunctions to join to create a description of a scene from the book. This week in Maths, we will focus on doubling and halving as we look more closely at odd and even numbers, the 10 times-table and how to divide by 10. We will recognise that the strength of some materials can be changed and will record data in a block graph in science this week. This week in Geography, we will investigate local habitats and record our findings.

**Week 6:** This week in English, we will write statements to create a report, use the progressive tense and create a story plan. Towards the middle of the week, we will write the opening of a story, learning to use a consistent tense throughout a story. In Maths we will look more closely at the 5 times-table as we learn to divide by 5. We will also spend some time looking at the relationship between the 5 and 10 times-tables. In our final Science lesson, we will compare the suitability of materials for particular uses as we recognise that some materials are harmful to the environment. To finish our Geography topic, we are going to develop our understanding of how to present our findings in a bar chart as we ask 'How can we look after natural habitats?'