

# Sandringham Class Newsletter

## Spring Term 2026

Happy New Year! 2026 is going to be a super year for Year 1 and we have lots of exciting learning to look forward to in Sandringham Class.

### *English – Reading & Phonics*

In the first half of the term, our primary text will be "Jack and the Beanstalk." The children will become familiar with the tale, engaging in various activities to retell the story and make predictions about the events and characters. This will foster both comprehension and verbal expression.

In conjunction with our reading activities, we will continue with the Monster Phonics programme, focusing on Phase 5 sounds. The children will also have the opportunity to consolidate their phonics skills through the introduction of 'alien' words, making their learning both fun and imaginative.

### *English – Writing, handwriting, grammar, punctuation, and spelling*

Our writing activities will also be centred around "Jack and the Beanstalk." The children will be encouraged to innovate their own versions of the story, thus nurturing their creativity. We will place emphasis on the fundamentals of writing, including the correct use of full stops, capital letters, and finger spaces. This will support their understanding of sentence structure and the application of phonics in their writing.

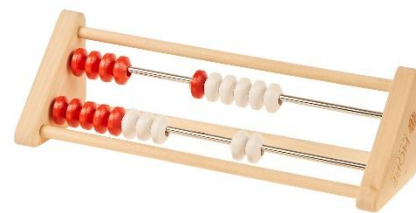
Weekly spellings will continue to link to the sounds we have been learning, in addition to the spelling of common exception words.

Handwriting will also be taught discretely, focussing on accurate letter formation with clear ascenders and descenders above and below the line. As the term progresses, we will also begin to teach some simple 'sweep ups' in preparation for joining some letters together.

### *Maths*

In Mathematics, we will be utilising the White Rose Maths scheme, which will guide us through various topics. The focus for this term will be on place value, where students will explore block representations to better understand numbers. Additionally, we will cover addition and subtraction, ensuring students develop a strong foundation in these essential skills.

We will also be continuing with our Mastering Number programme which is designed to enhance children's understanding and fluency in mathematics. A key resource used in this programme is the Rekenrek, a visual tool that helps children develop their number sense by representing quantities and facilitating counting and addition skills.



## Science

### Everyday Materials

During this term, your children will explore a variety of materials commonly found in their environment. Our aim is to engage the children in hands-on activities that will help them identify and classify different materials based on their properties. They will learn to distinguish between natural and man-made materials and will conduct simple investigations to discover the uses of these materials in everyday life.

We will cover essential concepts such as the properties of materials—namely their hardness, softness, flexibility, and transparency. In addition, the children will be encouraged to ask questions, make predictions, and develop their observational skills, fostering a scientific mindset that they can build upon in the future. To enhance their learning experience, we kindly ask that you support your child's understanding of everyday materials at home. Encouraging them to observe and discuss the materials used in the items around them, such as clothes, furniture, and packaging, will reinforce their learning.

## Other Curriculum Subjects

### Spring Term 1

#### History: Our Famous Friends

In history for the first part of the Spring term we will be learning about significant individuals from British history who have impacted on our lives today. Within this work we will also include aspects of responsibility, equality and generosity as part of SMSC - spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.



### Spring Term 2

#### History and Geography – Why Did Elephants Live in Leamington Spa?

In the second half of the Spring term, we learn about Queen Victoria and why elephants lived in Leamington Spa.



As geographers we will identify human and physical features of Leamington Spa, describe locations and routes on a map, create maps with a key and use aerial photographs.

#### RE:

Spring Term 1 – Christian Places of Worship – including a visit to the local Church

Spring Term 2 – Christian Rituals and Journeys

**PSHE:** The children will have the opportunity to discuss the two topics **Dreams and Goals** and **Healthy Me**

**PE:** Throwing & Catching, Dance & Fundamental movements

PE sessions remain on a **Wednesday and Thursday**.

**Please ensure your child has their full kit in school for these days. White T-shirt, PE shorts and trainers**

#### Music:

Spring 1 - *Exploring Rhythm Patterns*

Spring 2 - *Sound and Pictures*

### Art & Design: Our Famous Friends

The children will develop their drawing skills drawing real objects, including single and grouped objects with the visual elements; line and shape. They will explore the artwork and style of Van Gough.

### Design & Technology: Clay

Investigating and making moving pictures with simple lever mechanisms.

### Computing:

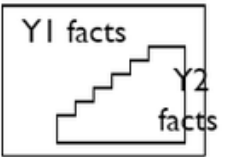
Spring Term 1 – Programming – *Moving a Robot*

Spring Term 2 – Data & Information – *Grouping Data*

### Homework

- Please continue to read regularly with your child at home. Ideally this will be everyday – little and often is far more beneficial.
- Phonics games – see handout from phonics workshop (please get in touch if you need a copy).
- Rapid recall of addition facts is also hugely beneficial – see grid below. *White Rose One Minute Maths* and *Hit the Button* are both great at supporting with this.

Adding 1	Bonds to 10	Adding 10	Bridging/ compensating
Adding 2	Adding 0	Doubles	Near doubles



+	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0	0 + 0	0 + 1	0 + 2	0 + 3	0 + 4	0 + 5	0 + 6	0 + 7	0 + 8	0 + 9	0 + 10
1	1 + 0	1 + 1	1 + 2	1 + 3	1 + 4	1 + 5	1 + 6	1 + 7	1 + 8	1 + 9	1 + 10
2	2 + 0	2 + 1	2 + 2	2 + 3	2 + 4	2 + 5	2 + 6	2 + 7	2 + 8	2 + 9	2 + 10
3	3 + 0	3 + 1	3 + 2	3 + 3	3 + 4	3 + 5	3 + 6	3 + 7	3 + 8	3 + 9	3 + 10
4	4 + 0	4 + 1	4 + 2	4 + 3	4 + 4	4 + 5	4 + 6	4 + 7	4 + 8	4 + 9	4 + 10
5	5 + 0	5 + 1	5 + 2	5 + 3	5 + 4	5 + 5	5 + 6	5 + 7	5 + 8	5 + 9	5 + 10
6	6 + 0	6 + 1	6 + 2	6 + 3	6 + 4	6 + 5	6 + 6	6 + 7	6 + 8	6 + 9	6 + 10
7	7 + 0	7 + 1	7 + 2	7 + 3	7 + 4	7 + 5	7 + 6	7 + 7	7 + 8	7 + 9	7 + 10
8	8 + 0	8 + 1	8 + 2	8 + 3	8 + 4	8 + 5	8 + 6	8 + 7	8 + 8	8 + 9	8 + 10
9	9 + 0	9 + 1	9 + 2	9 + 3	9 + 4	9 + 5	9 + 6	9 + 7	9 + 8	9 + 9	9 + 10
10	10 + 0	10 + 1	10 + 2	10 + 3	10 + 4	10 + 5	10 + 6	10 + 7	10 + 8	10 + 9	10 + 10