

# YEAR ONE TOPIC NEWSLETTER

## Spring Term 2026

### Under the Sea (6 weeks)

During this topic, the children's imagination will be captured by a fantastic jumble pan workshop with Mrs Turner. We are also excited to be welcoming Ali Dos Santos, our musician in residence, who will be working with the children every other week in their music lesson. In literacy, the children will listen to the story of 'The Journey Home' and will use this to write their own fantasy story. We will also read the book 'Clean Up' to understand and write about why it is important to keep our beaches clean. History will play a significant role in this topic, as we will learn about what a day at a Victorian seaside would have been like and also all about the Titanic. In science, we will begin to classify animals by using terminology such as amphibians and reptiles. In maths, we will be working on our number knowledge by adding and subtracting with numbers up to 20 and then learning our numbers to 50. As our 'Fab Finish' to this topic, we are inviting you to a coffee morning where you will be able to listen to a song and a poem and then create a piece of art work with your child.



#### Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

**Penguins:** 9:00am-9:35am

**Dolphins:** 9:50am-10:25am

**Turtles:** 10:40am-11:15am

#### ***New Vocabulary that will be taught in this half term:***

**Science:** fish, scales, gills, reptiles, amphibians, cold-blooded, warm-blooded

**Geography:** beach, ocean, cliff, river, coast, Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Arctic Ocean, Indian Ocean, Southern Ocean, pier, pollution, plastics, port, harbour, shops, offices, physical features, human features, natural, manmade, English Channel, Irish Sea, North Sea, Celtic Sea

**History:** timeline, present, future, Victorians, Titanic, ship, iceberg, disaster, changes, seaside, artefact, sources, wealth, question, poor, rich, similarity, difference

**Computing:** direction

**Music:** tempo

# Home Learning Activity

There are many activities that you could do to support our topic at home. We have outlined a few ideas below to get you started:

- Take a trip to your local library and look for some non-fiction books about life under the sea.
- Choose your favourite under the sea creature and write a fact sheet, poster or book about it.
- Create a picture of your chosen sea creature with labels.
- Create a 3D model of your favourite under the sea creature.

We look forward to seeing all of the children's fantastic home learning. Each child will be able to share their home learning with the class and receive a certificate.

Please send in your home learning projects by **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026**.

## PE – Gymnastics, Dance, Games

In dance, we will use 'Under The Sea' music to help the children create expressive dance routines. In outdoor games, we follow a scheme called 'Get Set 4 PE' which is fully aligned to the National Curriculum and Ofsted requirements and it focuses on the development of agility, balance and coordination and cooperative learning.

Penguins: Indoor PE – Wednesday    Outdoor PE – Thursday

Dolphins: Indoor PE – Wednesday    Outdoor PE – Thursday

Turtles: Indoor PE – Thursday    Outdoor PE – Wednesday

Your child's PE bag will be sent home at the end of each half term for a wash. Please ensure that a full kit is provided, including shorts for gymnastics and dance and long tracksuit bottoms for when the children complete games outside. Any earrings must be removed (tape is not permitted) on PE days and long hair must always be tied back.

*New Vocabulary that will be taught in this half term:*

Outdoor PE: distance, target

Indoor PE: feedback, flick

# PSHE & Religion and Worldviews

This half term, the focus for our PSHE lessons will be 'Dreams and Goals', where we will talk about different achievements that we have had. We will also discuss goal setting and how it feels to be challenged and achieve a goal. In Religion and Worldviews, the children will be learning about Christianity and Jesus' teachings about kindness and friendship.



**New Vocabulary that will be taught in this half term:**

**PSHE:** success, achieve, achievement, steps, self-belief

**RWV:** respect, value, care, message

## Focus Author

This term, we will focus on the author Emily Gravett, the writer of stories such as 'Wolves', 'Too Much Stuff', 'Tidy' and 'Meerkat Mail'.

## Calendar Dates

5<sup>th</sup> January – INSET day

7<sup>th</sup> January – Jumbie Pans 'Sparkly Starter' (children only)

15<sup>th</sup> January – National Hat Day celebration

23<sup>rd</sup> January – Non-uniform day for MyTime Young Carers charity

2<sup>nd</sup> February – FOAA movie night

10<sup>th</sup> February – Safer Internet Day

11<sup>th</sup> February – New parent volunteer meeting at 2:15pm

13<sup>th</sup> February – FOAA Smarties challenge starts

13<sup>th</sup> February – Under The Sea 'Fab Finish' – we hope you can join us!

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mr Watt, Mrs Warner, Mrs Blake-McKeown and Mrs Evans

