

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you and your family have had a wonderful summer filled with fun, rest, and maybe even a little adventure! It has been lovely to see the children return to school this week—full of stories, smiles, and ready to get stuck into the exciting term ahead. This term promises to be a busy one, with plenty of opportunities for learning, creativity, and curiosity. Here's a little peek into what we'll be exploring together in the coming weeks.

Mrs Hagger – Monday – Thursday

Mrs Folkard - Friday

Maths

We'll begin the term by revisiting our understanding of place value—making sure we can confidently read, write, and order numbers. From there, we'll move into addition and subtraction, focusing on different strategies to help us solve problems efficiently. Expect to see the children practising mental maths skills, using practical resources, and explaining their thinking in new ways.

English

Our first texts will be *The Disgusting Sandwich* by Gareth Edwards and *Billy and the Beast* by Nadia Shireen—both full of fun, mischief, and brilliant characters to inspire our writing.

Our focus will be instruction writing. We'll learn how to use time adverbials (such as *first*, *next*, *finally*) and clear, precise language so that our writing is easy for the reader to follow. The children will have the chance to write their own instructions, so don't be surprised if they come home directing you on how to make the "worst sandwich" or "how to trap a beast"! It would be useful for the children to have their own copy of these books to bring into school, this helps them be able to refer to the text when completing work – this, of course, is not compulsory but you can find used copies on World of Books for a cheaper price, if you would like to purchase them.

RE

This term, we will explore the Bible and learn how it is divided into the Old and New Testaments. We will study psalms, the story of Creation and Noah, considering God's promise and our responsibility as stewards of His world. We will also learn about the Sacrament of Baptism and explore the meaning of its special words, actions and symbols.

Science

We'll start the term exploring animals and their habitats—finding out how different creatures live, what they need to survive, and how they are suited to their environments. We'll then move on to materials and their uses, testing different materials for properties such as strength, flexibility, and

absorbency. There will be plenty of hands-on investigations and outdoor learning opportunities along the way.

Art

This term's art focus will be on monochromatic colours—working with different shades, tints, and tones of a single colour to create striking, atmospheric pieces. We'll also look at the work of artists who specialise in this style, drawing inspiration for our own creations. By the end of the term, we hope to have a beautiful display that celebrates the children's skills and imagination.

History

The children will be going back into time to 1666 to the Great Fire of London, discovering what London was like, and then investigating the events of 2nd September 1666 when the Great Fire of London started. They will be introduced to individuals such as Thomas Farriner, King Charles II and Christopher Wren. They will study evidence from Samuel Pepys' diary and objects left behind from the fire to help them form their own opinions.

Music

We will be covering the topic of Contrasting Dynamics. This unit will develop the children's knowledge and understanding of dynamics using instruments and will give them opportunities to compose and play rhythms to represent planets. They will use dynamics to create an atmosphere and collaborate with peers to contribute to a group soundscape.

Forest School – Thursdays

In Year 2 the children will be split into Forest School Group A and Group B and will alternate, starting with Group A on Thursday 10th September. Please ensure your child wears their **PE kit** and bring the appropriate layers to stay dry. Please do not send the children into school in wellies, they will need wellies as an additional set of footwear to change into. As we'll be learning in *all* weathers—sunshine, rain, and everything in between. Be prepared: Forest School is muddy, messy, and marvellous, so clothes *will* get dirty!

PE – Mondays and Tuesdays

Our PE sessions will be on a Monday and Tuesday afternoon. Don't forget that we now wear house colours for PE. Please make sure PE kit is weather-appropriate as we may be outdoors some weeks. Our core unit for PE in the first term will be ball skills. The focus of learning is to develop pupils' dribbling skills in to keep control and possession of the ball. Pupils will understand why it is so important to think carefully about where they dribble and why dribbling with control is so important.

Literacy Gold

We are delighted to share that we have invested in a new online learning programme for pupils in Years 1 to 6, designed to support the development of grammar, punctuation, reading and spelling skills. Last academic year, we trialled the programme with selected children and classes and were extremely pleased with the results. We found that regular use of the resource had a significant positive impact on pupils' progress across all of these areas.

As a result, we will be sending home your child's login details during our *Meet the Teacher* sessions over the coming week. This will allow you to access the programme at home should you wish to do so. Please note that this is **not** part of our compulsory homework programme. However, it provides

an excellent opportunity for additional practice and support for those families who have the time and would like to make use of it.

The programme works well on both tablets and computers, making it easy for children to access at home. You will find your child's login details on the front of their reading record.

Times Table Rockstars

Having a secure knowledge of, and fluency in, times tables is essential as children progress through school and encounter increasingly complex mathematical concepts. A strong understanding of multiplication facts helps to build confidence and supports success across many areas of mathematics. We are therefore delighted to be continuing our use of **Times Tables Rock Stars (TT Rock Stars)** this year. Available for children from **Year 2 to Year 6**, TT Rock Stars provides a fun, interactive and engaging way for pupils to practise and improve their times tables skills. We encourage families to support times tables learning in whatever way works best for them. TT Rock Stars is just one option, but it is an enjoyable and effective way for children to build their fluency and confidence through regular practice. Your child's login is on the front of their reading record.

We're really looking forward to seeing the children's confidence and creativity grow this term and welcoming them into year 2. We understand that there can be a lot of wobbles that come with moving year groups so please do let us know if there are any extra ways we can support with the transition. Thank you in advance for all your support and we look forward to a fantastic year together.

If you have any questions or would like to talk about your child's learning, please do get in touch.

Warm regards,
Mrs Hagger and Mrs Folkard