

Extreme Explorers



Advent Term 2026

Our Mission

- Throughout this term we will be learning about many different explorers. We will learn about the different places they explored, how they got there and what it was like.
- To end our Extreme Explorers topic, we will have an Explorers Day in school. The children will dress up as a explorer and have a day filled with activities on Monday 16th December.
- The children will have the experience of making and presenting a short PowerPoint about one of the explorers to their class.



English

Inspired by our 'Power of Reading' book we will be writing:

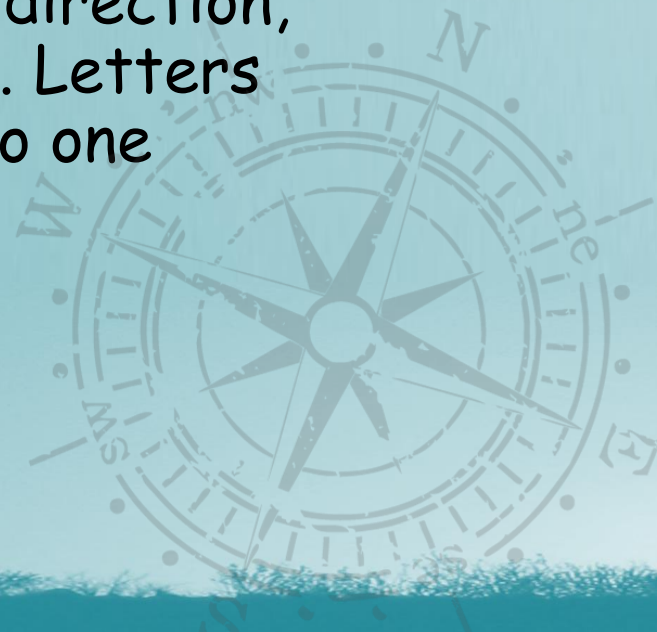
- A recount
- A postcard
- A diary entry about an adventure
- An advert
- A brochure
- A set of instructions
- A list of equipment for an explorer using commas
- Instructions for making a model aeroplane



English

In their writing the children will be encouraged to:

- Demarcate some sentences with capital letters and full stops
- Segment spoken words into phonemes and represent these by graphemes, spelling some correctly
- Spell most common exception words for Year 1 and 2
- Form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place. Letters should be of the correct size relative to one another in some of the writing
- Use spacing between words.



Maths

➤ Number: Place value

Count in steps of 2, 3, 5 and 10 from any number, forward and backward.

Recognise the place value of each digit in a two digit number (tens, ones)

Identify, represent and estimate numbers to 100 using different representations including the number line.

Compare and order numbers from 0 up to 100; use $<$, $>$ and $=$ signs.

Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and words.

Use place value and number facts to solve problems



Maths

➤ Number: Addition and Subtraction

Recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and derive and use related facts up to 100.

Show that the addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot.

Add and subtract numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: a two digit number and ones; a two digit number and tens; 2 two digit numbers; adding 3 one digit numbers.

Recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and solve missing number problems.

Solve problems with addition and subtraction: using concrete objects and pictorial representations, including those involving numbers, quantities and measures; applying their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods.



Maths

➤ Geometry

Recognise 2D and 3D shapes.

Identify and describe the properties of 2D shapes, including the number of sides, vertices, drawing and lines of symmetry.

Identify and describe the properties of 3D shapes, including the number of edges, vertices and faces.

Identify 2D shapes on the surface of 3D shapes [for example, a circle on a cylinder and a triangle on a pyramid].

Compare and sort common 2D and 3D shapes and everyday objects.

Order and arrange combinations of mathematical objects in patterns and sequences.



Religious Education

Branch 1: Creation and Covenant

Hear

The story of Noah, focusing on God's covenant (promise) with Noah and all living beings in the sign of the rainbow (Gen 9:7–17).

Believe

God makes a covenant (promise) with Noah to save all living things.

That people in the story of Noah turned away from God and chose to act badly; this is behaviour called sin.

The Sacrament of Baptism is when a person becomes part of the Christian family and promises to love God.

That the Christian Bible is split into two parts, the Old Testament, and the New Testament.

Celebrate

Psalms are prayers to praise God.

Sacraments are living signs of Jesus' love for all people.

Baptism is the first sacrament which welcomes people into the Christian family.

Live

Ways in which we can show care for God's world (stewardship) as part of our care for each other.

How a baby is baptised in the Catholic Church.

Religious Education

Branch 2: Prophecy and Promise

Hear

The Annunciation of John the Baptist (Lk 1:5–20) The Annunciation of Jesus (Lk 1:26–38)
The Visitation (Lk 1:39–50, 53) The birth of John the Baptist (Lk 1:57–58) The Birth of Jesus (Lk 2:1–8)

Believe

That prophets and prophetesses communicate God's message inspired by the Holy Spirit.
Christians recognise Jesus as a light in the darkness and Immanuel, 'God-with-us'.
Advent is the season when Christians prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas.
That Mary is the mother of God and our mother who is trusted with all our prayers.

Celebrate

Some words of Mary's prayer, the Magnificat (Lk 1:46–50, 53) in which she gives thanks to God and prays for his just world to come.
Advent is a time Christian preparation for Jesus' coming.
That the Advent wreath is a symbol of the coming of the light.

Live

About some daily/weekly commitments that enable Christians to live in a way that prepares them for Jesus' coming. Advent preparations in different cultures.
The meaning and interpretations of the candles/wreath in different cultural contexts.
How Catholic Social Teaching (CST) can help to guide Christians to 'share the light' with others.

Science

Living things and their habitat

- Classify and compare things that are living, dead or have never been alive.
- Describe how habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animal and how they depend on each other.
- Identify and name a variety of plants and animals.
- Identify and name different sources of food.
- Describe a simple food chain.

Materials

- Identify objects from materials.
- Identify and group everyday materials.
- Compare the suitability of materials for different purposes.



History

- What makes someone an important or significant person?
- Develop an awareness of the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements in the context of finding out about the experiences of Neil Armstrong, Mae Jemison, Christopher Columbus, Robert Falcon Scott, and Amelia Earhart.

We will learn about:

- Using a timeline to order events in a significant person's life.
- Using dates to describe when something happened.
- Carry out research using books and the internet.
- Write a diary entry as an explorer
- Create a fact file or storyboard about an explorer
- Create an information PowerPoint about an explorer



Geography

- Name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans.
- Understand how the equator affects different climates and locate them on a map.
- Begin to use and understand the significance of using a key on a map.
- Create a choropleth map to identify regions with a similar climate.
- Use world maps, atlases and globes.



Art and DT

Mark Rothko & Henry Matisse:

- Develop an understanding of the effects of different colours.
- Create different shades of paint.
- Understand hot and cold colours.
- Develop collage techniques.
- Suggest how Rothko and Matisse have used colour and create a piece of art inspired by them.

Design a mode of transport:

- Evaluate existing products and own ideas.
- Understand how axels work.
- Design a purposeful, functional and appealing mode of transport.
- Explore joining techniques and materials.
- Build a mode of transport with a working axel.



Computing

- We begin with online safety. Reminding us of SMART rules, and how to seek support in different online situations.
- Learners will develop their understanding of what information technology (IT) is and will begin to identify examples.
- They will discuss where they have seen IT in school and beyond, in settings such as shops, hospitals, and libraries.
- Learners will then investigate how IT improves our world, and they will learn about the importance of using IT responsibly.
- Use a variety of software, create, store and edit digital content with increasing independence
- To understand how to create and save a PowerPoint.
- Learn to make choices and use different features to present work.



Music

Children begin the Autumn term with Questions and Answers, exploring timbre and learning to identify percussion instruments by their sounds.

They will develop their listening skills and use untuned instruments to create their own musical question-and-answer patterns, building confidence in improvisation.

In Let's Keep Singing, children develop greater accuracy and control when singing, while learning to recognise and respond to changes in tempo and dynamics.

Through these activities, they will strengthen their listening, rhythm, singing, instrumental and performance skills.



Homework

- Children will have a reading book. Children should read daily, out loud to an adult and their reading must be recorded in their diary. We recommend you ask questions and discuss what has been read too.
- English and Maths homework will be set using online programmes. Reading Eggs for English, Mymaths for maths and TimesTable Rockstars for maths.
- Every Friday the Homework & spellings list will be stuck into the reading diary.
- Homework must be completed by the date set by the teacher. We will check to see how your child is getting on with their homework.
- The spelling test will take place every Friday morning. Children will be given an opportunity in school to 'Fix up' any corrections in their spelling test.



Things to remember

PE will be on:

- **Monday & Tuesday Mrs Powell's Class**
- **Monday & Wednesday - Mrs Green's Class**

- **Homework must be completed by the date set by the teacher. New homework will be set on a Friday.**
- **Spelling test will take place each Friday.**

- **Meet the teacher - Thursday 17th September 2026**

- **Parents evening will take place on 11th & 12th November from 4pm - 7pm**

- **Explorer Day: Wednesday 9th December (Dress up day in school)**

