

Falcons



Pirton School

Autumn Term 2026– Curriculum Newsletter

English

This term, our English lessons will explore a range of engaging texts across different genres. We will begin with narrative writing through *The Green Ship* by Quentin Blake, developing characters, settings, story structure and descriptive language. We will then explore explanation writing using *The Rhythm of the Rain* by Grahame Baker-Smith, focusing on organising information clearly and using precise vocabulary.

Children will also use *The Wolf's Story* by Toby Forward to explore persuasive writing, before planning and writing their own speeches, using persuasive language and strong arguments to engage their audience. We will then return to narrative writing with *The Fate of Fausto* by Oliver Jeffers, developing descriptive language and storytelling skills.

Finally, we will study free verse poetry through *The Dam* by David Almond and Levi Pinfold, experimenting with imagery, word choice and creative language.

Maths

Our taught maths content this term includes place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division.

We will develop children's understanding of number and calculation methods, with opportunities to apply these skills to a range of problem-solving and reasoning activities.

We will continue to focus on securing our times tables knowledge, and children will be accessing Times Tables Rock Stars weekly at school and as part of their home learning. Regular practice will help children to build their fluency, confidence and speed when recalling multiplication and division facts.



Science

Our first science unit, Food and the Digestive System- Eat, Chew, Digest, children will learn about the human digestive system and the journey food takes through the body. They will identify different types of teeth and their functions, link this to animal diets and explore food chains. In The Science of Sound, children will investigate how sounds are made and how sound travels as vibrations. They will explore pitch and volume and how these can be changed.

Information

Spellings will be tested on Tuesdays.

Home learning will be set on a Thursday and due back on a Tuesday.

Please make sure that all items are labelled.

Key Dates

16th September- Falcons Meet the Teacher Presentation

14th and 21st October -Parent Evenings

9th November- Book Look

11th November-Multiplication Check Information Meetings and Year 5 Knowledge and Understanding Information Meetings

Further important dates will updated and can be found on our website.

History/ Geography

Our History unit, Age of the Aztecs, will explore how the Aztec civilisation developed, including life in Tenochtitlán, their beliefs and the importance of chocolate, before discovering how the arrival of Cortés led to its end. In Geography, Adventures Across the Americas will take children on a journey through North and South America as they use maps to explore countries, climate zones and physical features before creating their own explorer's log.

Art and Design

In our Art project this term, The Power of Colour will explore how warm and cool colours can change the feeling of artwork. Children will learn how colours are mixed and used to create contrast, depth and atmosphere, taking inspiration from Indigenous art and Vincent van Gogh. They will apply their learning through practical artwork and evaluate their choices.

Design and Technology

In Design and Technology, our topic Preserve It! will explore how food can be kept fresh and safe through effective packaging. Children will investigate healthy snacks and different types of packaging, learning how nets can be used to create 3D packages. They will then design, make and evaluate their own packaging for a healthy snack.

Computing

In our first unit, the children will use 2D animation software in Purple Mash to plan and create their own narratives through animation. After half term, they will learn how to use search technologies effectively by selecting clear keywords, understanding how results are ranked, refining searches and evaluating online content to judge whether it is reliable and trustworthy. They will also continue to have regular online safety lessons.

PE

Our PE units this term are Dance, Handball and Gymnastics. Children will develop their coordination, balance, teamwork and movement skills through a range of practical activities. PE is on Thursdays and Fridays. PE kits should be kept in school throughout the week, and every item should be clearly named.

PSHE/RSE

In PSHE, pupils will explore what helps us feel safe, included and valued when connecting with others. They will discuss positive relationships, respect and how to respond when others may feel left out. They will also learn how to communicate safely, respectfully and responsibly online, considering how their words and actions can affect others.



RE

In RE, pupils will explore how Guru Nanak's teachings inspire Sikhs to live good lives today, focusing on equality, acceptance, honesty and serving others. They will also explore Hindu beliefs about our responsibility to care for the natural world, including ideas of dharma, respect for all living things and protecting the Earth.

Music

In music lessons, children will explore how music can be organised to create different effects and emotions. Children will experiment with rhythm, melody and dynamics, developing their skills in performing, composing and expressing feelings through music.

French

This term the children will continue to develop their French vocabulary and understanding of grammar, learning to speak, listen to, read and write phrases relating to fruit and vegetables.