

Autumn Term 2026 Curriculum Guide

Toucans Class



Welcome to Toucans Class!

This term our main focus continues to be developing the children's independence with their work, by encouraging them to give things a go and make 'happy mistakes'.
We hope you will find this guide useful.

Our Learning This Term

English:

Phonics & Spellings - We will have daily phonics lessons focussing on the alternate spellings for the sounds the pupils already know to support them to read a wide range of words and to become confident readers. Year 1 will be completing the Phonics Screening Check later this academic year (in the Summer Term).

Reading - During our week we have guided reading sessions, whole class reading as well as 1:1 and independent reading time. We provide as many opportunities to practise reading as possible.

Writing - This term we will have a whole school focus on the book 'The Tree and the River' by Aaron Becker, exploring different elements of writing. Then we will move onto a Labels, lists and captions unit focusing on the book, 'Someone Just Like You' by Helen Docherty and David Roberts

Maths: In Year 1, pupils will build a strong foundation by focusing on counting within 100, learning to recognise, read and write numbers while counting forwards and backwards with confidence. In Year 2, pupils deepen this understanding by exploring numbers from 10 to 100, focusing on place value in tens and units, comparing numbers, and applying their knowledge to solve addition and subtraction problems.

Science: This term, we are using the PlanBee curriculum to explore two exciting science topics: Everyday Materials and Animals Including Humans. Our young scientists will start by identifying and testing the properties of common materials like wood, plastic, and metal, discovering why they are suited for different jobs. Later in the term, we will turn our focus to biology, naming parts of the human body, exploring our five senses, and learning how to group and compare different animals based on their diets. It promises to be a term filled with curious questions, active investigations, and wonderful discoveries!

History: Toucans will be asking 'How am I making History?' They will be ordering events on a timeline and using the terms 'before' and 'after' to explain their choices. We will be talking about special memories and naming four key events to celebrate throughout the year.

Geography: Our theme for Geography is 'Where am I?' We will be labeling the different countries in the UK and identifying features around our school grounds. We will explain symbols on a map and consider how different places make us feel. We will be looking at aerial maps and responding to directional language.

In RSHE: We are exploring our different emotions and what makes us feel happy. We will also consider the community around us and our part in it. We will reflect on the special people in our family and what makes a good friend.

RE: During Religious Education this term we are considering 'What is God's Job?' We will discuss opinions and beliefs about what God does, while respecting others' views. We will be investigating different beliefs about God by exploring stories and sacred texts.

PE: Our sports coach will be focusing on team games this term and Mrs Payne will be focusing on attack, defence and shoot this term, in preparation for team sports. P.E days are Tuesday and Thursday.

Computing: We will be using the learning platform Purple Mash, which the children will have access to at home as well as school. We will be learning how to program routes and what the internet is used for. Please let us know if you need help logging into Purple Mash at home.

Music: We will be focusing on keeping a steady beat, finding different pitches with our voices and

experimenting with this using different songs. After half term, we will start to recite our Nativity songs!

Art + DT: In the Explore and Draw pathway, pupils investigate the vibrant world of food by carefully observing and drawing a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables. Children explore texture, form, and colour through first-hand observation, practicing fundamental mark-making and drawing techniques to capture the detailed surfaces of raw, sliced, and prepared produce.

General Information

Monday: Mrs Payne, Mrs Burningham, Miss Hudson and Mrs Stewart

Tuesday: Mrs Payne, Mrs Burningham, Miss Hudson and Mrs Stewart

Wednesday AM: Mrs Payne, Mrs Burningham, Miss Hudson and Mrs Stewart

Wednesday PM: Mrs Chegwyn, Mrs Burningham and Mrs Stewart

Thursday: Mrs Chegwyn, Mrs Burningham, Miss Emmerson and Mrs Stewart

Friday: Mrs Chegwyn, Mrs Burningham, Miss Emmerson and Mrs Stewart

Please remember to send your child in with their book bag and reading book daily.

A named waterproof jacket and water bottle should also be brought to school daily. As the weather warms up, a named sunhat should also be brought to school daily with sun cream applied in the morning when required.

Home Learning

Reading Book: Please send the book and reading record to school daily. Your child's reading book will be changed on a Friday. Your child will change their library book on a Monday. Your child will also be given a challenge book which is a book of their choosing, from a wide range of books.

Homework: Please read with your child at least four times a week and sign their reading record. Your child has login details for PurpleMash and TTRockstars which are the online platforms we use to help develop fluency in Maths. These should be used at least once per week. Your child will have spellings come home every Friday and the test will be the following Friday.

Reading Toucan: Terry will be assigned to your child at least once throughout the year. Terry loves being read to and is ready to listen to a story read by either you or your child. Please send pictures and/or writing in via the office ready for your child to share with the class.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning then please feel free to email us. We would also appreciate good feedback too - this helps to shape the planning going forwards.

*Thank you for your continued support,
Toucans team*