# Year 1 – Curriculum Overview – Autumn 2 2026

| Subject | | Key learning |
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| English |   | **Writing to Inform – Recipes**<br>**Key text: *Gruffalo Crumble and Other*** Recipes by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler<br>Children will write invitations to a Gruffalo party and learn how to read, follow and write simple instructions. They will sequence and complete instructions before creating their own. Through practical activities, children will make a mud pie by following instructions and then write their own instructions for others to follow. They will also write and follow instructions to make sandwiches and "Terrible Tusks" as part of their exciting Gruffalo party.<br>**Writing to Entertain – Narrative (Traditional Tales)**<br>**Key text: *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* by Mac Barnett & Jon Klassen**<br>Children will create a story map and orally retell the story with actions. They will write a character description of one of the three billy goats and learn to use the conjunction **and** to join two ideas together in their writing. Children will then plan and write their own version of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*, changing the animals in the story. They will explore the traditional tale *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* before reading *Stop! That's Not My Fairytale!*. Inspired by the story, children will think and write about which character, setting and fairy tale they would want to be part of and explain why. |
| Phonics |   | **Phase 5**<br>ir bird, ie pie, ue blue rescue, u unicorn, o go, i tiger, a paper, e he, a-e shake, i-e time, o-e home, u-e rude cute, e-e these, ew chew new, ie shield, aw claw |
| Maths |   | **Numbers to 10- comparison, equality and balance.**<br>Children will compare quantities using one-to-one correspondence and find the difference between amounts. They will explore 'how many more', 'how many fewer' and 'how many less', using practical resources to understand difference as the distance between two numbers. Children will also compare the lengths of objects and find the difference between them. They will learn that the equals sign (=) means 'the same as' or 'balanced' and use resources such as pan balances, cubes and counters to explore and prove whether number statements are true or false.<br><br>**Numbers to 20: addition and subtraction, odd and even numbers**<br>Children will explore the numbers 11–19, learning that they are made up of **one ten and some more ones**. Using practical resources, including base-ten equipment, they will develop their understanding of **tens and ones** and use this knowledge to count, compare and represent numbers to 20. Children will practise subitising and estimating quantities, find **one more and** |

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| | | **one less**, and use 10 as a benchmark when counting. They will also explore **doubling and halving**, learning about equal groups and repeated addition. Finally, children will investigate **odd and even numbers**, spotting patterns and using practical resources to support their understanding. |
| Science |  | **Materials**<br>Children will identify, name and describe a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, metal, glass, paper and fabric. They will explore materials found in the world around them and investigate their different properties. Through practical investigations, children will test and compare materials to find out whether they are absorbent or non-absorbent, waterproof or non-waterproof, transparent or opaque, and bendy or rigid. They will learn how to carry out simple fair tests and use their observations to answer questions. Children will also sort and group materials based on their properties, explaining how and why they have classified them in different ways. |
| History |  | **Toys**<br>Children will explore toys from the present day by bringing in their favourite toy and talking about how it works, what it is made from and how they like to play with it. They will then investigate toys from the past, using photographs, artefacts and other sources to ask and answer questions about different toys. During a hands-on toy workshop, children will learn about Victorian toys and make some of their own, including a thaumatrope, a split-pin teddy and a magnetic fishing game. They will compare Victorian toys with modern toys, identifying similarities and differences, and explore how toys have changed over time. Children will use their historical enquiry skills throughout the topic to develop their understanding of the past and how it differs from today. |
| Design and Technology |  | **Mechanisms – Wheels and axels**<br>Children will investigate wheels and axles, exploring how they work and how different wheel shapes and designs can affect movement. Children will learn about axles and axle holders and use their findings to improve their own designs. They will then plan, make and decorate their own pull-along toy, carefully selecting materials and tools. Finally, children will test and evaluate their finished product, considering what worked well and how they could improve it in the future. |

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| Computing |  | **Digital art**<br>Children will use Chromebook to create and edit digital artwork. They will learn how images are made up of individual pixels and use digital painting tools to change the colour of pixels to recreate simple and detailed pictures. Children will develop their accuracy by using zoom controls to fill small spaces and add finer details to their artwork. They will review their work, make changes where needed and explore how digital tools can help them improve their designs. |
| RE |  | **Christianity**<br>Key question: What gifts might Christians in my town have given Jesus if he had been born here rather than in Bethlehem?<br>Children will talk about choosing meaningful gifts for different people and consider why some presents are special. They will explore the Christian Christmas story and learn about the gifts brought to Jesus by the Wise Men. Children will think about why these gifts were important in Bethlehem and discuss how gifts might be different if Jesus were born in our town today. They will reflect on the feelings associated with giving and receiving thoughtful gifts and consider how acts of kindness can show care for others. |
| Music |  | **Move to the beat-exploring pulse and rhythm**<br>Children will explore pulse and rhythm through a range of listening, singing and practical music-making activities. They will learn to keep a steady pulse using body percussion and untuned percussion instructments and begin to understand the difference between pulse (the steady beat) and rhythm (the pattern of sounds). Children will copy and create simple rhythmic patterns using claps, taps and percussion instruments. They will also learn to follow graphic scores and use them to play a steady pulse. Children will create and perform their own simple music scores, using symbols to represent different sounds and rhythms. |
| PSHE |  | **Jigsaw – Celebrating differences**<br>Children will explore the similarities and differences between themselves and others in their class. They will learn that everyone is unique and that our differences make us special. Through discussion and activities, children will identify ways in which people are the same and different and celebrate the diversity within their school community. They will learn what bullying is, how it might make someone feel and how to be kind and supportive towards others. Children will discuss how to help if someone is being bullied and understand the importance of telling a trusted adult. They will also explore friendships, learning how it feels to make a new friend and how kindness and respect help us build positive relationships with others. |

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| PE |  | **Ball skills –**<br>Children will develop their ball skills through a range of fun and practical activities. They will learn to bounce, throw, roll and stop a ball with increasing control and accuracy. Children will explore how to vary the power and speed of their movements and practise aiming at targets. They will combine sending and receiving skills, work with a partner and apply their skills in simple team games. Children will develop their coordination, control and confidence while learning how to use their ball skills to score points and play games successfully. |
| Personal Development |  | • Outdoor Learning Day<br>• Toy Workshop<br>• Christmas show<br>• Performing at Leavesden hub (after school event)<br>• KS1 choir performance<br>• Music Week<br>• Pantomime Trip<br>• Remembrance Day<br>• Anti-bullying week<br>• Children in Need<br>• Christmas Fayre<br>• Christmas Fun Day |