Year 1 – Curriculum Overview – Autumn 1 2026

Subject		Key learning
English		**Writing to Inform – Lists, Labels and Captions** **Key text: *Jasper's Beanstalk* by Nick Butterworth and Mick Inkpen** Children will explore *Jasper's Beanstalk* by predicting the ending and sequencing events from the story. They will learn to label a bean plant and use capital letters for the names of the days of the week. Children will verbally rehearse and follow instructions before writing their own set of instructions about planting a plant. **Writing to Entertain – Narrative** **Key text: *Puffin Peter* by Petr Horáček** Children will explore *Puffin Peter* by making predictions and using adjectives to describe characters. They will write simple sentences about puffins and create a story map to help them verbally retell the story. Children will then use their story maps to write their own retelling of *Puffin Peter*. **Writing Poetry – List Poems** **Key text: *Purple Is* by Anonymous** Children will explore nursery rhymes and familiar poems, identifying and creating rhyming couplets. They will generate vocabulary and compose sentences orally before writing. Children will work together to create a class poem before writing their own list poems in groups.
Phonics		**Phase 3 review** ai rain, ee tree, igh night, oa goat, oo zoom, ar car, or torch, ur fur, **oo** book, ow owl, oi coins, ear hear, air chair, er her **Phase 4 review** **Phase 5** ay- play, ou- cloud, oy- toy, ea- each
Maths		**Geometry - Position and Direction** Children will recap and develop their understanding of positional language, using vocabulary to describe the position of objects and the direction of movement, including turns. They will learn to use ordinal numbers (for example, *first* and *1st*) to describe the order of objects, including from left to right. Children will also identify and name the position of objects within a grid using rows and columns. **Numbers and place value to 10**

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		Children will develop a secure understanding of numbers to 10 by recognising patterns, subitising and exploring different ways to represent numbers. They will find one more and one less, practise counting and sequencing, order numbers and values, and make sensible estimates. Children will explore how numbers can be partitioned and regrouped using part-whole and bar models. They will also develop their understanding of addition and subtraction by using mathematical language, learning that addition can be completed in any order (commutativity) and understanding subtraction as taking away.
Science		**Animals including Humans** Children will identify and name the basic parts of the human body and learn about the five senses. They will explore how each sense is linked to a different part of the body and use practical activities to investigate how we see, hear, smell, taste and touch the world around us.
Geography		**Our school** Children will explore their school environment using first-hand observations, photographs and maps. They will develop their understanding of familiar places such as their classroom, playground and school by using simple maps, aerial photographs and compass directions. Children will also use simple fieldwork skills to investigate the geography of their school and use photographs and maps to explore the surrounding area.
Art and Design		**Art – Spirals (inspired by Molly Haslund)** Children will explore spirals in art and nature, experimenting with a range of drawing techniques and materials. They will create spiral artwork inspired by Molly Haslund, develop their observational drawing skills, and practise using continuous lines to draw natural objects such as shells.
Computing		**Mouse and keyboard skills** Children will learn how to use a Chromebook confidently and safely. They will practise turning the device on and off, logging in using their own username and password, and developing their trackpad skills by selecting, dragging, dropping and double tapping objects on the screen. Children will also begin to use the keyboard to locate letters and numbers
RE		**Christianity** Enquiry question: What do Christians believe about God?

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		Children will explore what Christians believe about God as the Father. They will learn about the Christian story of Creation from the Old Testament and consider why Christians believe it is important to care for the world. Children will also explore the teaching to 'Love your neighbour as yourself' from the New Testament and discuss how this encourages Christians to show kindness and care towards others.
Music		**Move to the beat-exploring pulse and rhythm** Children will explore pulse and rhythm through songs, movement and playing percussion instruments. They will learn to recognise and keep a steady pulse, respond to changes in tempo, and perform simple instrumental accompaniments to familiar songs. Children will also respond to music in creative ways through movement and performance
PSHE		**Jigsaw – Being me in my own world** Children will explore what helps them to feel special, safe and valued in their classroom. They will develop an understanding of belonging, their rights and responsibilities, and the importance of following class rules. Children will also discuss rewards and consequences, recognise their achievements and celebrate what makes them proud.
PE		**Locomotion – Running** Children will develop their running techniques by exploring different speeds, acceleration and running as part of a team. **Dance – Growing** Children will explore how to respond to different rhythms and create their own movement motifs and sequences. They will use these skills to create and perform a dance inspired by the growth of a plant.
Personal Development		School and Eco council elections Harvest performance in Leavesden Hub Harvest Assembly Outdoor classroom day Black history month