



MERCHANT TAYLORS'
Prep

Year One Curriculum Notes
2023 – 2024

Topic Work: Our Topic lessons are designed to incorporate the subjects of English, Science, History, Geography, Art and Design & Technology. We work on a joint two-year rolling cycle with Year 2 and have a new topic each term.

- Autumn Term:** **Pirates!** In this Autumn term we learn all about a pirate's travels around the world. The children follow the progress of our very own pirate, and use it as a starting point to research geographical facts about various countries around the world as well as historical facts about pirates. We also go on a school trip to visit the Golden Hinde in London in order to experience life on board first hand.
- Spring Term:** **Space:** In the Spring term we learn about Space. The topic will include a visiting Planetarium and a Rocket Workshop. The topic will include learning about the Solar System, space travel, forces, materials and their properties, and creative tasks. To support your son's learning, we recommend visiting The Greenwich Planetarium, The Science Museum, or the National Space Centre in Leicester.
- Summer Term:** **Knights and Castles:** The Summer term's topic is 'Knights and Castles' and includes a trip to Windsor Castle. We learn about life as a squire, the role of knights, all about princesses and features of Medieval castles.

English: We follow 'Read, Write, Inc' which is a synthetic phonics programme covering phonics, spelling, reading, comprehension and writing, letter formation and using the correct pencil grip. The children will read regularly with an adult and take home both daily reading books and a weekly text based on the phonics they are learning. In the Summer term there is a focus on using a variety of punctuation, descriptive language and detail in their independent writing.

Maths: Our curriculum is based on the White Rose Maths Scheme and is reinforced by using the IXL Maths computer programme.

- Autum Term:** Focuses on Number within 10, Addition and Subtraction within 10, to include:
- Sorting and counting objects.
 - Number – recognising as numerals and words.
 - Counting on and back – 1 less, 1 more, fewer than and greater than
 - Using a number line
 - Part Whole Model
 - Number sentences
 - Fact families
 - Bonds within 10
 - Addition and subtraction – finding part and number problems.
 - Recognising 2D and 3D shapes.



MERCHANT TAYLORS'

Prep

Spring Term: Focuses on Place Value to 20, Addition and Subtraction and Place Value within 50 to include:

- Counting and understanding numbers to 50
- Counting and understanding numbers to 50
- Using a number line to 20
- Comparing and ordering numbers
- Counting on and counting back
- Number bonds to 20
- Doubles and near doubles
- Missing number problems
- Partition into tens and ones
- Measuring in centimetres
- Weighing – heavier, lighter, full and empty

Summer Term: Multiplication and Division, Addition and Subtraction and Place Value to 100 to include:

- Counting from 50 to 100, partitioning into 10s and ones
- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s
- Recognising equal groups – grouping and sharing
- Making Array
- Recognising halves and quarters of objects
- Ordinal numbers
- Number line to 100
- Comparing 2 numbers
- Money – recognising coins and notes
- Time – days of the week, months of the year, hours, minutes and seconds.
- Telling the time (hour and half past)

Forest School:

Autumn Term: They will be exploring the wider natural environment and learning about the signs of Autumn. This will include harvesting blackberries to make jam, and apples, which they will turn into juice using a press. They will also learn to use tools to harvest the willow and make a willow pencil. Their regular sessions in the woods will enhance their knowledge and understanding of the natural world and develop their sense of awe and wonder.

Spring Term: They will continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of the seasons and the natural world. They will participate in orienteering activities, learn more about the trees in our woods and the birds that nest there. This will include caring for the birds. They will also make Easter Gardens.



MERCHANT TAYLORS'

Prep

Summer Term: They will learn how to safely light a fire using a fire steel and will enjoy cooking on the fire. They will continue to explore the wider natural environment, including using sweep nets in the meadow and harvesting elderflowers to make cordial.

The sessions throughout the year will enable the boys to develop their curiosity, empathy, collaboration, perseverance, risk-taking and independence.

Computing:

Autumn Term: Develop basic keyboard skills and technical vocabulary for our devices.
Develop simple word processing skills.
Use internet-based research.

Spring Term: Use basic programming.
Gather information from a variety of sources.
Create a multimedia project to demonstrate their learning.
Continue to learn the basics of coding.

Summer Term: Further develop keyboard skills.
Use graphics to enhance work.
Researching the internet for facts.
Create an animation with sound.

R.E. (Religious Education):

In Year 1 we focus on developing the children's knowledge of Religious Festivals and stories.

Autumn Term: We discuss our own religious identity; what it means to be a Muslim; learn about the story of Rama and Sita, story of Moses and the Christmas story.

Spring Term: We learn about the Festivals of Chinese New Year What it means to be a Sikh Gurdwaras; What it means to be a Buddhist Temples and monasteries; What it means to be a Jew, What a Synagogue is and Stories of Jesus.

Summer Term: We learn about the story of Muhammed Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr; Story of Guru Nanak Vaisakhi; Story of the Buddha Wesak; What it means to be a Christian Churches; What it means to be a Hindu.

PSHE (Personal, Social, Sealth and Economic Education):

Our PSHE curriculum is based on Coram Life Education & SCARF (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience, Friendship) which is designed to promote positive behaviour, mental health, wellbeing, resilience and achievement. It incorporates age appropriate RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) in line with Government guidance.



MERCHANT TAYLORS'
Prep

- Autumn Term:** Relationships:
Families and Friendships
Role of different people; families; feeling cared for
- Spring Term:** Relationships:
Safe Relationships
Recognising privacy; staying safe; seeking permission
Respecting Ourselves and Others
How behaviour affects others; being polite and respectful
- Summer Term:** Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing:
Keeping healthy; food and exercise; hygiene routines; sun safety
Growing and Changing
Recognising what makes them unique and special; managing feelings.

French:

- Autumn Term:** The boys will be investigating the following topics:
Introducing ourselves
Greetings
Alphabet
Christmas celebrations in France
- Spring Term:** Consolidation of familiar topics (number, colour, alphabet) and further topics:
Classroom objects
Sport
Transport
House
Food
- Summer Term:** The boys will learn about parts of the body:
Days of the week
Colours
Animals
Weather.

Music:

- Autumn Term:** We will be developing our ability to:
- Recognise the difference between pulse and rhythm
 - Perform with a sense of pulse.
- Spring Term:**
- The boys will use percussion instruments and participate in group musical activities.



MERCHANT TAYLORS'

Prep

Summer Term

- The focus will be on pitch, rhythm, and pulse.
- The areas the boys will be developing this term are:
 - Ability to discriminate longer and shorter sounds.
 - Create interesting sequences using sounds.

P.E. (Physical Education):

Autumn Term:

In PE we will be developing fundamental movement skills, specifically: balance, agility and coordination. We will also be starting to talk about health and wellbeing, relating to our bodies and how we respond to exercise. In Games we will be introducing the boys to football, focusing on ball skills including passing and dribbling, with a further introduction to small, sided games.

Spring Term:

In PE we will be focusing on gymnastics, relating to body control and individual/partner balancing. In Games the focus will be touch rugby, focusing on skills such as evasive running, tagging and ball handling.

Summer Term:

In PE we will be focusing on athletic events such as running, throwing and jumping. This will be combined with a focus on team work ahead of sports day. We will also introduce the boys to rounders skills including batting, bowling and fielding. In Games we will be focusing on Cricket skills, specifically batting, bowling and fielding also. With the skills learnt this term in rounders and cricket being transferrable.

Learning Dispositions:

Our Learning Dispositions are all characterised by animal 'learning friends' and are integral to our teaching and learning. Each week during the year we take the opportunity to focus on a particular disposition:

Autumn Term:

- Concentration: attentiveness, self-control, conscientiousness, mindfulness
- Perseverance: determination, patience, resilience, loyalty
- Empathy: gratitude, kindness, generosity, forgiveness, humility

Spring Term:

- Communication and Collaboration: respect, manners, fairness and teamwork.
- Independence: responsibility, organisation and duty
- Wisdom: initiative, leadership and evaluation



MERCHANT TAYLORS'

Prep

Summer Term:

- Curiosity: enthusiasm, enquiry, exploration
- Imagination: hopefulness, adaptability, open-mindedness
- Risk Taking: honesty, bravery, trust

Homework:

Homework is set weekly via Seesaw to be completed throughout the following week. This is likely to comprise of short Maths and Writing activities and Spellings and is designed to introduce the children to the concept of homework and good working practises.

We also send home reading books and expect the children to read on a daily basis.

Art & Design & Technology:

Art will be closely linked to the topic we are covering and each term will focus on the following areas each term. The boys will learn to:

- use a range of materials creatively to design and make products.
- use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination.
- develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space learn about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work.



MERCHANT TAYLORS'
Prep

Dear Parents,

First, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all the boys starting in Year One. On the attached curriculum sheet you will see details of what the boys will be learning throughout the year. Please note that we will be teaching the subjects of Science, History, Geography and Art/DT through our chosen topics, Pirates, Space and Knights and Castles.

Your son will receive specialist teaching from

1. Mr Todd, Mr Evans and Mr McNamara for Games and PE
2. Madame Lad for French
3. Mr Edwards for Music
4. Mrs Quinlivan for Computing
5. Mrs Funnell for Forest School
6. Mrs Sheeky for Library

On a Friday your son will receive homework tasks via Seesaw to be completed at home by the following Friday. This is to allow you to spread the tasks throughout the week to fit in with your other commitments.

This will consist of:

1. Spellings to be tested on Fridays
2. A literacy based activity
3. A number based activity

Reading books are sent home daily. Please ensure the book is returned the following day and that you have signed the blue Reading Record. Our intention is for reading at home to be a pleasurable experience for the boys, with the instructional reading work done in school. Consequently, the texts we send home should be of a level which he can read with little or no assistance.

Boys will have the opportunity to take home library books every Monday and these should be returned to school by the following Monday.

Pencil cases will be kept at school and we will notify you if your son needs any items replacing. As with last year, the boys will need a pair of named wellington boots for Forest School to keep in school which should be sent in as soon as possible. (You do not need to send in waterproof clothing.)

Warm regards,

Mrs. J. Higgins (Y1H Class Teacher)
Mrs J. Elsam (Year 1 Assistant)

Mrs R. Doherty (Y1D Class Teacher)
Miss M. Andrews (Year 1 Assistant)