

Merlins Class (Year 3) Half-Term Overview: Autumn 1

RE (Creation & Covenant)

In RE this half term, we are coming to a deeper understanding of the account of Creation in Genesis 1:1-2:4 as the basis for care of ourselves, others and the entire global community. Children will consider the seven-day sequence of the first account of Creation, thinking about its implications for stewardship and what it means to be made in the image of God. 'Imago Dei' in Latin, imbues each person with a unique and inherent dignity. Human dignity is a principle of Catholic Social Teaching. The children will explore human dignity in this branch.

PSHE

This half term we are developing Religious understanding of the Gospel story Jairus' daughter in various creative and reflective ways. A second theme unpacks the Sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation as a foretaste of heaven and a wonderful part of our relationship with God. Children will learn to celebrate similarities and differences, and to appreciate and look after their bodies as gifts from God.

Science (Forces & Magnets)

This unit introduces the children to the physics of how things move and interact. The children will begin by exploring contact forces, defining a force simply as a push, pull, or twist that can change an object's speed, direction, or shape. They will investigate friction as a contact force, conducting comparative tests to observe how different surfaces affect the movement of objects. The topic then shifts to non-contact forces, focusing on magnetism. The children will discover that magnetic forces can act at a distance, learn to classify everyday materials as magnetic or non-magnetic, and explore how a magnet's north and south poles will either attract

English (The Iron Man)

In this vocabulary-rich unit, pupils will immerse themselves in Ted Hughes' classic, *The Iron Man*. Through dynamic drama, prediction, and text analysis, children will explore the mysterious arrival of the metal giant and his conflict with humanity. They will draft an approaching threat narrative, focusing on building tension and suspense through fronted adverbials, prepositions and adverbs. Finally, they will create an explanation text on how to trap the giant, which will help introduce paragraph structures and noun phrases.



Computing (Animation)

Pupils will develop their understanding of animation by creating simple moving images using digital technology. They will learn how animations are made from a sequence of still pictures, explore techniques such as stop-frame animation, and plan, create, and edit their own short animated films. Throughout the unit, children will use creativity and problem-solving skills while learning to capture images, organise sequences, and evaluate how effectively their animation communicates an idea or story.

General information

PE: Wednesday and Friday
Homework - My Maths and TTRS (Weekly) Spelling Homework (Every two weeks)
Library: Thursday
Reading books changed on a Friday

Art (Drawing)

In this unit the children will develop their observational drawing skills through botanical-inspired themes. They will also learn different shading and sketching techniques to effectively represent shape, texture, and tone.

PE (Coordination, Footwork & Balance)

In this unit, the children will focus on coordination and balance by practicing and applying their footwork and one-leg balance through focused skill development sessions, healthy competition, cooperative games and Personal Best challenges.

Geography (Settlements)

Are all settlements the same? Children will examine settlements and land use by comparing urban and rural environments and investigating how places change over time. Children will learn to: Locate some cities in the UK; Describe the difference between villages, towns and cities; Identify features on an OS map using the legend; Describe the different types of land use; Follow a route on an OS map; Discuss reasons for the location of human and physical features; Locate some geographical regions in the UK; Identify and begin to offer explanations about changes to features in the local area and describe the location of New Delhi.

Maths (Place Value/Addition & Subtraction)

Adding and subtracting across 10:

Children will develop strategies for adding and subtracting numbers that cross a multiple of 10, helping them build fluency and mental calculation skills.

Numbers to 1,000:

Children will deepen their understanding of numbers up to 1,000 by exploring place value, comparing and ordering numbers, and representing them in different ways.