



Weekly Learning Update

Date: Friday 23rd January 2026



Fortnightly Collective Worship Theme: Tolerance

Reverend Yorkstone joined us for collective worship this week while we considered how we can be tolerant of people's differences and beliefs. Keith Munro, from the Baptist church, also visited us to share the message that 'Love is the greatest thing'.



Thank you for all of the photos received that showcase the wide range of talents and hobbies our pupils have! Parents will be able to see them on the way into parents' evening in a few weeks (wb 9th Feb).

We are going to start collecting items for our OPAL play programme. Do you have any items you could donate for the wheeled play area? Prams (toy or real), wheeled suitcases, skateboards, wheelbarrows...big-wheeled items. But no bikes at this point please. Please hold on to the smaller items (listed at the end of this document) for now, until we have suitable storage.



EYFS

This week's learning	This week we are using the text <i>The Emperor's Egg</i> to learn about contrasting locations around the world. We have compared Antarctica to the UK and have learnt lots of facts about emperor penguins and how they survive the harsh cold winters. We dressed ourselves for winter using hats, gloves and scarfs and labelled everything using our clever segmenting skills. In maths we have now explored numbers 6, 7 and 8. We worked hard to subitise with these numbers and experiment with different ways of making each number using Numicon.
Questions to ask your child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 more than 5 is? 1 less than 7 is? 1 more than 6 is? Etc • Emperor penguins keep warm by....

Year 1

This week's learning	This week we have been exploring our Lost and Found story whilst using and to join two sentences together. In science we have supported our English by identifying and sorting Polar animals. We looked at who are carnivores and who are herbivores. We danced hard and had lots of fun raising our money to adopt a penguin; we shall let you know our final total! In Maths we have explored using a number line to 20, including 1 more and 1 less, and consolidated our knowledge ready to apply it in our new addition and subtraction unit.
Questions to ask your child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is 1 more than 16? 1 less than 18? • What is your favourite Polar animal?

Year 2

This week's learning	This week in English, we have been exploring the features of instructional writing, focusing on chronological order and the use of imperative verbs. In maths, the children have been learning to recognise and count pence. Our science learning has centred on understanding how animals and humans have offspring that grow into adults. In computing, we had great fun navigating the Beebots around the classroom. We are also thoroughly enjoying our class novel <i>Milton the Mighty</i> and using our phonics knowledge to help decode new scientific vocabulary.
Questions to ask your child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do we call the babies of these animals: sheep, goat, duck, horse and cow? • Can you recall what a cephalothorax is from <i>Milton the Mighty</i>?

Year 3

This week's learning	We have been looking at measuring length in maths this week using m, cm and mm. Using the animation of the Dreamgiver as a stimulus we have been planning a narrative to describe a dream of our own. In Science we have shared our knowledge of magnets using key words; attract and repel. Concluding the topic, the children have created games which rely on the presence of a magnetic force to play with younger pupils. The celebration of Rosh Hashanah by those who follow the Jewish faith has been explored in Religious Education.
Questions to ask your child	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can you think of a simile that explains how brightly something is shining?• How many things can you see around you which measure longer than 1 metre?

Year 4

This week's learning	In maths this week, the children have been building confidence using written methods for short multiplication, carefully setting out their work and explaining their thinking. In English, pupils have stepped back in time to write setting descriptions for the opening of Escape from Pompeii, focusing on using fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and accurate sentence structure to create atmosphere and detail. In science, we have begun our new unit on States of Matter, using observation skills to identify the properties of solids, liquids and gases. In art, the children have continued developing their sketching skills, using shading and gridding to make their 2D drawings of Roman emperors appear more 3D and realistic. A fantastic effort from Year 4!
Questions to ask your child	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can you describe the properties of a solid, liquid and gas, and find an example of each from around your home?• Can you teach your parents how to use the expanded method to solve 24×5 and 127×4

Year 5

This week's learning	In history this week, we found out about what happened at Sutton Hoo; we had a go at being archaeologists ourselves - digging up some of the treasures found at Sutton Hoo. We thought about why the discoveries at Sutton Hoo were so important. We were really surprised to find out that the boat that had been buried was almost three of our classroom put together (27m). In English we have been so busy that we have written Kenning poems and planned wanted posters for Grendel. In maths, we calculated division questions and thought about when we might need to round up or down when solving division word problems. In French, we practised numbers up to 100 and were intrigued by the number patterns such as four twenties ten nine.
Questions to ask your child	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is similar and different about the French numbers soixante (60) and soixante-dix (70)?• Why was the Sutton Hoo discovery so important to historians?

Year 6

This week's learning	We are enjoying our text – Who Let the Gods Out? and have been writing diaries from the opinion of Elliot. In science, we explored reflection, using our knowledge of angles to calculate incidence and reflected rays, and we made small periscopes to reflect light around corners. In computing, we have been using the Scratch coding software to control variables in games.
Questions to ask your child	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can you remember at least one verse of the Greek Gods rap?• We have been multiplying decimals – find some prices of things you would like to buy. How much would it cost to buy 7 or 9 of them?

Get ready to play... OPAL BINGO



Laundry basket 	Suitcase 	Wooden spoons 	Action figures 	Plastic crates
Dress up items 	Cars and trucks 	Dinosaurs 	Pans 	Plastic dolls
Lego 	Small balls 	Scooter / Skateboard 	Poles 	Tarpaulin
Beach spades 	Buckets 	Umbrellas 	Hard hats 	Wellies
Guttering 	Wooden planks 	Helmet 	Aprons 	Rakes

Get ready to play... OPAL BINGO



Jugs 	Baking pans 	Cake moulds 	Measuring spoons 	5 Gallon buckets
Baskets 	Cable spools 	Cones 	Laundry baskets 	Balls - every kind!
Plastic bins 	Fabric 	Funnels 	Nets 	Old electronics
Suitcases 	PVC pipes 	Ropes 	Shovels and spades 	Sinks and tubs
Tyres and wheels - big, small and weird 	Pots 	Colanders 	Wheelbarrow 	Watering cans