

Literacy/Kinetic letters

This half term we will move towards more regular, formal writing sessions, where we will be supporting the children to start writing in sentences. We will teach them about finger spaces, full stops, and capital letter use.

Kinetic letters handwriting will focus on the rest of the lowercase letters first. Then we will move on to uppercase letter formation and number formation.

Please practise handwriting at home where you can!

Key texts: The Train Ride, Duck in a Truck, Little people big dreams – Amelia Earhart, Emma Jane’s aeroplane, Mr Gumpy’s outing. As well as non-fiction books about transport/vehicles.

Expressive Arts & Design

This half term we will be holding a CNY art and design workshop, more information to follow regarding when you can come and get involved! We will learn about folk art that is seen on narrowboats and paint our own designs. We will also continue with our music sessions, using instruments to explore and engage in music making. Daily poetry and rhyme sessions will continue, and we will also be performing rhymes as part of our PE unit.

Communication & Language

Our ‘word ninja’ word of the day will focus on words linked to our transport topic. Please see these on the talk newsletter each week. Listening to and talking about non-fiction texts will help the children develop their knowledge and vocabulary too. We will also be asking the children to offer explanations about why things happen, expressing their ideas using full sentences.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will talk about ways to be healthy and discuss ways to travel which are better for the environment. Safer Internet Day falls this half term, so we will have an assembly and learn about ways to keep ourselves safe on our devices. We will be encouraging the children to try new activities, develop their perseverance and develop independence in their work and by managing their own needs during the school day.

Phonics

We follow the Little Wandle program (see link at the bottom for parent info and videos) we will learn the following phonemes this half term:

ai ee igh oa
oo (moon) oo (book) ar or
ur ow oi ear
air er

We will continue with our guided reading sessions three times a week in school. We will now focus on the children becoming more fluent and reading with expression.

Please read at home at least three times a week, to achieve a star towards your reading certificate!

TRANSPORT



Our topic this half term is ‘Transport’. We will spend the next few weeks learning about different types of travel including road, train, air and water transport. We will compare transport in the past and present, as well as making our own predictions about the transport of the future! We will learn about steam trains and their uses, life on a narrowboat and the purpose of canals. We will look into our local area, tracking canals and rivers on a map, exploring canal folk art and locating where we live and our school grounds. We will find out about who Amelia Earhart was, and what planes were like in the past.

If you are after something to do at the weekends, why not visit the RAF Cosford museum, it links in nicely with our learning and its completely free! Follow the link below...

[RAF Museum Midlands | Aircraft Museum | Free Admission](https://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/)

Mathematics

Please keep an eye on the Talk Newsletter, which we post weekly on ClassDojo. This will tell you what we have been doing in our maths sessions for that week.

Some of the topics we will be covering are composition of numbers, subitizing, comparing mass and capacity, exploring 6,7, & 8 in depth, odd and even numbers, doubles and combining groups.



Understanding the World

Our exciting new role-play area will be a car garage, where the children can develop their pretend play being a mechanic! During our learning about water transport, we will investigate floating and sinking and develop our scientific prediction enquiry skills. We will observe the weather changing and talk about appropriate ways to dress in cold weather, as part of our understanding of the world. We will also find out about Chinese New Year festivities!

Physical Development

During indoor PE sessions on Mondays, we will be working on a dance and rhyme unit. The children will be making performance pieces based on popular nursery rhymes. On Thursdays, our sports coach will support us with learning to move in different ways and with large and small movements.

Our whole-school value this half term is **Resilience**. This will be the focus of many of our class discussions and assemblies. This also links well to setting our personal new year goals in the first week back.

**RESILIENCE COMES
WHEN CHILDREN
KNOW IT IS SAFE TO
MAKE MISTAKES.**

**I CAN
AND
I WILL**