

Pioneers 1

Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term 2026



Our Values...

**Welcoming Teamwork Friendship Trust
Independence Fun!**

Curriculum Enrichment

Writing Curriculum Day – 5th March
Wellbeing Days:
10th February (Children's Mental Health)
20th March (Red Nose Day)

Festivals of the Month

January – Vasant Panchami
February – Chinese New Year
March – Eid Al Fitr

Topic

British Culture and Community

Maths

Pupils will be consolidating number knowledge including place value, number bonds, addition and subtraction. Some pupils will learn related addition and subtraction facts. Where possible, mathematical skills will be applied to real life situations.

Pupils will continue work on 2-D shapes and their properties and move onto angles and then 3-D shapes. Within multiplication and division, they will increase confidence with sharing and grouping quantities using physical resources. Other topics include money: pupils will find different combinations of coins that equal the same amounts of money, time: pupils will begin to explore 12-hour and 24-hour clocks and simple data handling.

Phonics and English

In English, the focus text is 'Wind in the Willows' by Kenneth Grahame, to correspond with the class topic of 'British Culture and Community'.

Pupils will build on the skills they began to demonstrate last term, using an abridged version of this slightly more challenging text in order to make predictions, practise their comprehension skills and develop their writing skills.

Pupils continue to be set for Phonics and Reading where they take part in daily Phonics lessons, following the 'Little Wandle' scheme, to develop their reading skills in smaller groups.

You can support your child's reading by regularly reading the Little Wandle eBooks assigned by your child's Phonics teacher. You can access the books using your child's personalised login at:

<https://www.collinshub.co.uk/login/>

Humanities

During the first half term, the focus will be on Geography. Pupils will explore the local area, using UK maps and fieldwork to investigate features such as economic activity and recycling.

In the second half term, the focus will shift to History. Pupils will complete a local history study and examine how national events and developments are reflected within the local community.

Science

Pupils will explore and investigate different habitats, learning how living things are distributed and why they live where they do. They will discover how environmental changes can affect plants and animals and how animals adapt to survive in these conditions. Pupils will also learn about food chains and how energy moves through ecosystems. Through hands-on activities, they will develop skills to record, explain, and communicate what they observe. Pupils will be encouraged to ask scientific questions and be curious and develop critical thinking skills and a deeper understanding of the natural world.

P.E.

Pupils will learn how to play Table Cricket; this will be delivered by a Cricket Coach from the Worcestershire Cricket Foundation. Pupils will learn how to bat, bowl and field and apply the skills in a game. In the second half of the term, pupils will develop their Boccia skills learning the lay-up, knock-on and knock off and applying these into competitive games. Pupils will get the opportunity to go Ice Skating as part of OAA. Those pupils who are swimming this term will be informed individually, they will be working towards their personalised targets.

Music

With a focus on 'structure' in music, pupils will use their topic of recycling as an opportunity for them to be creative and make their own instruments from junk. They will use their instruments to improvise, compose and play junk jazz music in a variety of different musical structures. The class will also explore Chads Grove's Samba Band percussion instruments to combine their recycling word rhythms in whole-class performances.

Art

Pupils will explore and develop outcomes based on the theme of 'Our Community / Britain'. Through the work of Howie Green and Friedensreich Hundertwasser and a variety of ceramics artists, pupils will explore using a variety of materials and techniques to explore ideas in 2-D and 3-D, including printing, painting, collaging and experimenting with mixed materials. Pupils will also make an African mask and a clay flower for Chads Grove's 50th birthday celebrations.

P.S.H.C.E.

Pupils will focus on building confidence in their social skills and learning how to stay safe, including what to do if someone is unkind, and how to ask for help. They will also be exploring the importance of families and the different people who care for and support them.

How can Parent Carers support their child's learning?

Please continue to practice Phonics, reading and maths skills with your child at home and out and about, wherever possible. Please check the class Dojo page and chat for any messages and use it to keep us updated.

Thank you!

How is my child's progress being recorded?

All pupils are continuously assessed using the Chads Grove P-Steps and SOLAR, which breaks down P-Steps and National Curriculum Levels into small steps, so that we are able to track progression through each level. Staff observe pupils regularly as they work. We use evaluation forms to record observations as well as photographs of pupils completing activities. We encourage pupils to be reflective learners and evaluate their own progress and achievements. Pupils' targets are regularly reviewed and monitored to enable progression of learning and skills. We record observations and work using Assessment Trackers which track pupils' progress, enabling us to identify which level they are currently working towards.