

Pioneers 1
Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn Term 2025



Our Values...
Welcoming Teamwork
Friendship Trust
Independence Fun!

Curriculum Enrichment

Multi-Cultural Day – 17th October
Enterprise Day – 19th November

Festivals of the Month

September – Rosh Hashanah
October – Simchat Torah
November – Diwali
December – Christmas

Topic

Africa

Maths

Pupils will focus on building on prior knowledge to develop conceptual understanding and mathematical reasoning. They will also be working towards being able to solve problems by applying their mathematics to relevant real-life situations.

They will explore a dynamic range of topics, including mastering place value and addition and subtraction, while building confidence in multiplication and division. They will investigate 2-D shapes and their properties, sharpen their understanding of position and direction, and apply their skills to real-world scenarios like using money, all while enhancing their problem-solving abilities and mathematical thinking.

Phonics and English

Pupils are set for Phonics and English.

Pupils will continue to 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/>

In English this half term, the text is 'Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters' by John Steptoe. Pupils will use this text to make predictions, practise their comprehension skills and understanding of texts, and develop their writing skills in whatever way is meaningful to individual pupils. They will also be working on their speaking and listening skills, participating in collaborative conversations and drama activities.

Humanities

This term in Geography, pupils will explore Africa by locating it on a map and focusing on Kenya. They will learn about its people, climate, jobs, and cities, and then compare it with another African country. Pupils will also study African rivers and deserts, looking at the animals and environments found there. They will compare life in cities to rural and natural areas, and finish the topic by comparing a Kenyan city to one in England. The topic will end with pupils creating a labelled picture of their favourite African place studied.

Science

This term's Science topic is 'Living things and habitats'. Pupils will explore classification, the distribution of living things, animal adaptations and environmental changes, food chains and predators and prey. There will be plenty of opportunities for scientific enquiry, including learning how to plan different types of scientific experiments to answer questions, as well as recognising and controlling variables. Pupils will be developing their measuring skills, using scientific equipment with increasing accuracy. They will also use results to make predictions and set up further fair tests.

P.E.

PE takes place on Tuesdays and Fridays. On Tuesdays, the focus is fitness: pupils will work on improving their fine and gross motor skills. On Fridays, the first half term is gymnastics: pupils will work with a partner to find ways of balancing and travelling through mirroring, matching and following. In the second half of the term, pupils will develop their ball handling skills through small sided games.

Pupils who are swimming will be notified individually when this takes place.

Music

Pupils will develop their performance skills through learning and performing traditional African songs. They will explore key musical features such as repetition, call and response and layered rhythms, which are central to African musical traditions. Pupils will perform on traditional African instruments, compose their own accompanying rhythms and develop their confidence when singing individually and as part of a group.

Art

Pupils will be exploring the theme of African Art. They will learn about different African artists and take inspiration from their use of colour, patterns, textures, and animals. Pupils will have the chance to try a range of techniques such as printing, painting, collage, clay work, and using mixed materials, developing their own ideas and creativity while practising independence.

P.S.H.C.E.

Topics for this term are being safe online, basic first aid and safety in the community. Pupils will learn about spotting harm online, keeping things private online and knowing where to get help. They will learn about basic first aid, when this might be required and stranger danger.

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 Chadsgrove 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.