

Marwood Church of England VC Infant School

Curriculum Statement – Year One February 2026

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The topic for this half-term is 'Land before Time'. The children will be learning about dinosaurs and fossils throughout the half term.

English

- We will be learning how to research dinosaurs and fossils using iPad, laptops and non-fiction books and learn how to record the information we find in a mind map. We will then use this information to write non-fiction texts.
- We will also listen to a variety of topic themed stories and poetry and learn to write dinosaur riddles.
- Children will continue to have weekly spelling tests which will include the high frequency words, days of the week and numbers they need to learn in year 1.
- We will be revising learnt phase 5 sounds in Little Wandle phonics this half term before continuing to learn new digraphs, trigraphs and alternative sounds.
- We will continue to have regular guided reading sessions where we will practise our fluency, prosody, and comprehension skills to deepen our understanding through discussions about the vocabulary used and context of the book.
- We will continue to practise daily handwriting and which letters belong to which handwriting families (please continue to practise beautiful handwriting when writing your dictated sentences).

Mathematics

- This term we will then develop our counting skills, continuing to focus on counting forwards and backwards to 20 and understanding those tricky teen numbers.
- We will revise saying one more and one less than a given number, this time to 20.
- We will also begin learning number bonds to 20, using our number bonds to 10 to help us.

Science

- Children's curiosity will be peaked when learning about palaeontology and fossils which will include some exciting awe and wonder science experiments.
- We will also continue our learning about different materials and their properties.
- Our work will be related to the topic and work on fossils will involve practical investigation and making.

History

- We will look at events beyond living memory on a timeline and begin to place dinosaurs on a timeline.
- Children will learn about the famous palaeontologist Mary Anning.
- We will learn the names and attributes of a variety of dinosaurs.

Geography

- We will be focusing on our school environment and creating maps and plans of the classroom.
- We will use maps to try to discover where dinosaurs lived and where different fossils have been found.

P.E.

- This half-term's focus is ball skills and invasion games. The children will work on following simple game rules, including Dodgeball, while developing their throwing, catching and aiming.
- We will also continue our regular daily laps around the playground (weather permitting) and our active learning throughout the day.

Art/Design Technology

- The children will make a class collage of a dinosaur, in addition to making our own fossils and doing rubbings of fossils and rocks.
- The children will also be learning to use watercolours and creating a watercolour backwash with silhouette dinosaurs in the foreground.
- The children will also be using their scientific knowledge of materials to make a shelter to keep the dinosaurs safe and dry.

ICT

- We will collect data and present it in different ways.
- We will continue to learn how to take photos and use safe educational websites on the ipads and laptops.
- We will also continue to practise using 2simple software to type and draw pictures.

Music

- We will be exploring **how sounds can be produced** in different ways using **voices and instruments**.
- We will also **listen to a variety of music** including *Flight Of The Bumblebee* and *William Tell Overture*, and will begin to recognize how composers use **dynamics, tempo and timbre** to bring a character or theme to life!
- We will learn to **sing simple songs** as a class, adding **facial expressions and actions** to enhance a performance.

R.E.

- Children will explore what it means to be a Muslim. We will learn more about the different parts of a mosque and compare Islam with our previous knowledge of Christianity.
- Year one will also continue to explore and show caring and kindness through discussion, stories and music.
- All children will continue to take part in regular worship and singing altogether.

RHE / PSHCE

- During this half term the children will focus on the question 'Who is special to us?' The children will read stories about different kinds of families and relate these to our families. The children will create pictures and collages of our families.
- Next, we will identify people who are special to us, what makes them special and how they help care for us.
- We will look at the PANTS rule and discuss how to stay safe around unfamiliar people.
- As part of Children's mental health week (5th - 11th February 2024) we will look at the topic of worries, change and learn strategies of how to cope with them through stories such as 'The Huge bag of Worries', 'The Worrysaurus' and 'Ruby's Worry'. As part of this work children will make and decorate a worry box.
- Throughout this half term, the children will continue to learn about different festivals and special days such as New Year's Day and Chinese New Year (Year of the Dragon).

The golden rule for this half term is '*Be Honest*'.