

Marwood Church of England VC Infant School

Curriculum Statement – Year One

April 2026

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Our topic this term is mesmerising mini-beasts where we will be broadening our interest in butterflies, tadpoles and a wider variety of mini beasts and creatures.

English

- We will be continuing our daily phonics sessions this half term. We will continue to learn to blend and segment multi-syllabic words and will be looking closely at 'alien' words in preparation for the phonics screening in June.
- Class reading and writing will involve a balance between fiction and non-fiction, based largely upon butterflies and tadpoles. We will learn to write a letter following our educational visit to Butterfly world and will begin to write stories based on *Superworm*.
- We will continue with weekly spelling tests and home reading as usual.
- Our focus in SPAG this half term will be exclamation marks, adding the prefix -un, reading and writing contractions and writing questions and answers.
- We will continue regular reading practise sessions where we will practise identifying and pronouncing the various phonemes correctly and deepening our understanding through discussions about the vocabulary used and context of the book, in addition to reading with prosody.
- We will continue to work on our handwriting, which letters belong to which handwriting families and including even spaces between words.

Mathematics

- We will begin our unit on mass and learn about volume and capacity. We will learn to estimate and compare capacity and practise measuring volume when making 'magic potions'.
- Mental and written work will be used to develop counting forwards and backward to 50 and place value of numbers to 50 in order to write these digits correctly.
- We will continue to practise how to count in 2s, 5s and 10s.
- Children will also learn about position and direction which will link to our ICT work when learning how to program beebots.

Science

- This half term will be focused on learning about animals.
- We will also be identifying and naming a variety of common animals and describing them to our friends.
- The children will use non-fiction books to research tadpoles and frogs, butterflies and other mini-beasts.
- We will be looking at the butterfly and frog life cycle closely while we nurture our own caterpillars and tadpoles in class and observe them through each stage of their natural life cycle.

Geography

- We will continue to practise naming the four countries and capitals of the UK and locate them on a map.
- We will learn how to draw maps and will learn more about the location of our school and carry out some fieldwork in our local area.
- We will learn the directions of a compass and how to use a simple compass.
- We will use the knowledge we learn in maths to help us describe the location of features and routes on a map.

P.E.

- Swimming starts this term (see newsletter for dates) with our weekly sessions at Stokesley Leisure Centre.
- We will return to developing our ball skills with some mini-invasion games; including; Piggy in the Middle. We will be looking at strategies to keep possession of the ball and finding a good space.
- We will also introduce some skipping, running and jumping skills.
- Finally, we will be practising our maypole dances in readiness for our performance on the High Green.

Art/Design Technology

- This half term we will continue to develop our design skills by designing and making our own 3D Modroc minibeasts.
- In addition, we will use computer software to create pictures and paintings linked to our topic of mesmerising mini beasts.

ICT

- We will learn how to take photos and use safe educational websites on the ipads and laptops.
- To link with our topic of minibeasts we will also use 2 Simple and other software to create digital piece of artwork.

- We will learn how to programme bee-bots and describe their position. We will direct them through obstacle courses that we have designed.
- The children will discover how to collect data using tally charts and then use this information to create pictograms. Then the children will use their pictograms to compare the data to answer questions such as which is the most popular minibeast in the garden.
- Towards the end of the half term, we will be visiting places of Christian worship in our local community and developing our digital photography skills, to link with our RE unit.

Music

- This term, the children will be exploring pitch and melody. We will find out about a variety of instruments and learn to describe their pitch and timbre. We will begin to recognize where the pitch gets higher, lower or stays the same. We will play simple melodies using tuned percussion and be introduced to the pentatonic scale with songs such as *Just Five Notes*.

R.E.

- We will then begin to learn more about how religious people show they belong to their faith community and more about the promises made at christenings and weddings in our NY unit 'What does it mean to belong to a faith community?'
- We will extend our learning on symbols of Christian belonging through sculpture and collaborative collage work.

R.H.E. / PSHE

- This half term, the children will be looking at how we can look after our environment; being kind and gentle towards ourselves and living things to link with the topic of mesmerising minibeasts.
- As we come into better weather the children will learn how to keep safe on a beach and the importance of keeping safe in the sun by learning the five sun safety S's of **slip** on a T-shirt, **slop** on some sun cream, **slap** on a hat, **seek** - shade particularly at the hottest part of the day and finally **slide** on some sunglasses.
- We will learn about the importance of looking after each other, listening and sharing our opinions, and discovering the difference between needs and wants.
- In addition, throughout this half term, we will also be discussing Earth Day and looking at our final patron saint of St George and how we celebrate St. George's Day in England compared to St. David's day in Wales, St Andrew's Day in Scotland and St Patrick's Day in Ireland.

Our Golden Rule this half term is '**Look after property**'.