

English

In English this term, we will continue using Drawing Club to bring stories to life and make reading fun. The children will explore characters, settings and share their own imaginative ideas using words and pictures. Reception will begin to write phrases using decodable words. They will continue to develop pencil control and accurate letter formation. Year 1 will join ideas within a sentence using 'and' and begin to use suffixes words including -ed, -ing, s and -es.



Science

During this half term, we will be looking at the key question 'What changes can I see in our school environment during winter?' Through this unit, we will look at our local environment and describe the weather and the season. We will identify and classify leaves focusing on deciduous trees, and investigate the impact on light and heat (from the sun) on plant growth.



Religious and Worldviews Education

This term, we will explore special people across faiths including Jesus, Mohammed and Abraham. We will explore how Jesus shared God's message and consider what God's messages tell us. Year 1 will answer the question 'What are intermediaries?' and begin to understand that they are special people that the creator entrusted to share their message.



French

We will recap our French numbers (1-10), greetings and colours with some French lotto, bingo. We will touch on Easter in France before we explore "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" and consider it from a French perspective, learning the days of the week.



Computing

Children are beginning their journey into programming by exploring simple commands and how they work together. They'll learn to predict outcomes, understand algorithms, and start designing basic programs using floor robots in a structured, engaging way.



Hedgehog Class Newsletter

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Additional information

Home learning will be set weekly on a **Friday for both Reception and Year 1**. Home Learning books will need to be handed in on the following **Friday**, along with your child's reading record to be checked and the books to be changed. Reading should happen at **least 4 times at home** each week and recorded in the reading record. Forest School will begin this term – each **Monday** with more info to follow.

Please ensure all uniform, including PE kit is named and in school at all times along with a named water bottle.

Any questions, do not hesitate to contact us via hedgehog@trentyoungs.dsat.org.uk

Phonics/Reading

This term, children will enjoy daily phonics and reading sessions. In Reception, they'll continue their phonics journey by learning Phase 3 sounds and blending them to read simple words, while practising oral blending and segmenting. We will be reading and writing decodable and tricky words.

In Year 1, children will build on their skills with Phase 5 sounds and tricky words, exploring alternative spellings which allow them to 'grow the code'.



History

This half term, we will be diving into our topic '**Explorers**', where the children will learn what makes someone an explorer and why exploration has shaped the world. They will place famous journeys on a timeline, investigate maps and equipment, and discover inspiring figures: Christopher Columbus, Matthew Henson, Mary Kingsley, and Dame Ellen MacArthur.



Maths

Reception: This term, children will continue building their number knowledge by exploring numbers to 8, understanding one more and one less, and learning the composition of numbers like 6, 7, and 8. They will also investigate length, height, and time through practical activities, as well as exploring mass and capacity in fun, hands-on ways.

Year 1: Children will focus on place value within 20 and practise addition and subtraction within 20, including finding parts and using fact families. Later in the term, they will deepen their understanding of numbers up to 20, learning to order them and identify one or two more or less.



Art

We will explore the exciting world of Playful Making. They will learn what sculpture is, experiment with different materials, and discover how ideas, tools, and hands work together to create 3D art.



Design Technology

Year 1 will be learning about moving toys. Children will explore how wheels and axles work, then design and make their own pull-along toy. Reception will continue to explore the design process and ways to join materials.



Physical Education

This term in PE, children will be developing their gymnastics skills. They will learn to make strong body shapes, jump safely from apparatus, and hold balances with control. They'll also practise different types of rolls and bunny hops, exploring how to move in fun and creative ways while focusing on strength, control, and safety.



Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

We will learn about rights and responsibilities through stories and activities. We'll explore caring for belongings, looking after money, and ways to stay safe. The unit also introduces first aid and encourages children to think about fairness and respect.



Music

This term in music, children will become part of a **Big Band!** They'll explore different instruments, keep a steady beat, and work together to rehearse and perform, building confidence and teamwork while enjoying making music.

