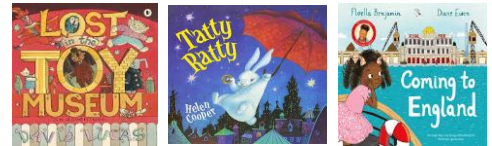


March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to begin by praising all of the children for continuing to work extremely hard throughout the spring term. It has been a busy term that has seen our pupils produce a range of wonderful work from across the curriculum.

During English this term, we began by exploring poetry, where we learned about rhyming words, performance poetry, and created riddles to describe our favourite toys. We then studied '*Lost in the Toy Museum*', making predictions before reading and using adjectives to describe the settings and characters, before retelling the story through drama and writing. We also developed our spelling, punctuation and grammar skills, focusing on editing our work, using conjunctions, and applying different suffixes correctly. Later, we explored '*Tatty Ratty*', where we described characters and settings and used these ideas to plan and write our own version of the story. In addition, we have also studied information texts, identifying their key features and using this knowledge to create our own texts about the four countries of the UK. Finally, we learned about letter writing through '*Coming to England*' and wrote our own letters, before finishing the term by writing instructional texts linked to our design and technology work on how to make a puppet.



In Maths this term, we began by exploring time and consolidating our understanding of place value within 20, including partitioning teen numbers and using a number line. We compared and ordered numbers and applied our knowledge to solve reasoning questions. We then developed our addition skills by counting on, using number bonds, and applying doubles and near doubles, before moving on to subtraction using counting back and finding the difference. We also learned to compare and measure length and height using objects and centimetres. Later, we explored multiplication by counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and applied this knowledge to counting money using coins. We continued with multiplication by recognising equal groups and creating arrays, before learning division through grouping and sharing. Finally, we learned to find halves of shapes and quantities and revisited place value to help us solve missing number problems.

In Science this term, we continued our learning about everyday materials by exploring and describing their physical properties. We developed our scientific skills by comparing materials and grouping them based on their simple properties. As part of our work on seasonal changes, we carried out a winter walk around the school grounds, where we observed the weather, our clothing, and the appearance of trees. We then moved on to learning about animals, including humans. We identified and named a variety of common animals such as fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. We also learned to classify animals as carnivores, herbivores or omnivores. Finally, we described and compared the structures of different animals, including common pets.



In Geography, we learned about the United Kingdom and built on our previous knowledge of our local area. We began by locating the UK on a world map. We then learned the names of the four countries that make up the UK, along with their capital cities and key features. We explored the seasonal and daily weather patterns in the UK and compared these to weather in other parts of the world. We also developed our geographical vocabulary by identifying and describing a range of human and physical features found across the UK.

In History, we focused on comparing the toys we play with today to those from the past. We began by explaining our favourite toys to create a basis for comparison. We then learned about the toys our family members played with by interviewing them as part of our homework. Next, we explored the types of toys that Victorian children played with. We compared toys from different time periods, considering how they were played with and what they were made from. Finally, during our trip to the museum, we saw a range of historical toys, which helped bring our learning to life.



In Computing this term, we learned about programming by working with floor robots. We were introduced to the different buttons and used them to move the robots forwards, backwards and in different directions. We then developed our skills by programming the robots to follow specific routes. We also explored grouping data, where we learned how labels can help to identify groups of objects. We practised sorting and grouping items in a variety of ways, developing our understanding of how data can be organised.

In Art and DT, we explored 3D sculpture by learning how to manipulate paper to create three-dimensional drawings. We then used clay to design and make our own toy models, joining different parts together using slip. After completing our models, we painted them to add detail and finish our work. We also explored textiles by studying different textile artists and looking at textiles from a range of cultures. We developed practical skills such as weaving, plaiting and tying knots. Finally, we linked this learning to Design and Technology by practising our sewing skills, including using a running stitch when making our own felt puppets.



In Music this term, we explored the topic *The Snail and the Mouse*, where we used our bodies and instruments to listen and respond to music with different speeds, such as fast and slow. We learned and performed a rhyme and a song, developing our understanding of how music can change in tempo. Later, we studied *The Seaside*, where we explored how sounds from different environments can be turned into music. We used percussion instruments, our voices and body sounds to represent seaside noises. We also learned about dynamics by experimenting with making music louder and softer to show different emotions.

In PE this term, we developed our dance skills by exploring travelling actions, movement, and balancing, while learning to count to music and link actions together to create short dance phrases. We worked both individually and with partners to create and perform dances, and we used dance vocabulary to give feedback. In our outdoor sessions, we focused on net and wall games, where we developed skills such as throwing, catching, tracking and hitting a ball, while learning how to score points and follow rules. We also built our understanding of teamwork, respect and self-management when playing with others. Later in the term, we explored fitness, learning about the benefits of exercise on our physical health and wellbeing while completing challenges to achieve our personal best. In outdoor PE, we further developed our sending and receiving skills, including throwing, catching, kicking and stopping a ball, and applied these in group activities while learning the importance of following rules to stay safe.

In RE, we focused on the theme *Caring for Others*, exploring how to be kind and look after each other. We learned about the importance of kindness by studying the values of different religions, reading stories from various faiths, and learning about religious festivals and practices. Later, we explored Judaism, learning about the Pesach story, including how Moses led the Jewish people out of Egypt, crossed the Red Sea, and received the Torah and the Promised Land. We studied the features of a synagogue and understood that it is where Jewish people celebrate most of their

festivals. We also learned about Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur, and explored the different ways Jewish people express their faith.

In PSHE this term, we learned about being responsible, including how to respond appropriately when accidents happen, such as water spillages. We explored different emotions, including jealousy, and discussed how to handle a variety of situations with our feelings in mind. We also focused on online safety, particularly online bullying, and considered the positives and negatives of using technology. We learned how our online activity can affect others, how to recognise kind and unkind comments, and how to ask for help when we need it.

We would like to wish you all a happy Easter holiday and look forward to more exciting activities during the summer term.

From the Year 1 Team