English

This half term, the children will develop their confidence and skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening through our wider learning experiences. We will use our daily phonics sessions to support the writing of dictated sentences, applying the sounds and spelling patterns we are learning. These lessons will build the fundamental skills needed for sentence writing, including listening carefully, remembering a sentence, and using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops accurately. Daily handwriting practice will focus on letter formation, developing pencil control and helping the children become increasingly confident and fluent writers.

We will place a strong emphasis on oracy, developing the children's confidence in speaking and listening. Through exploring new vocabulary and investigating word classes such as adjectives and verbs, children will learn how word choices can influence the meaning and impact of what we say and write. *Leaf Man* and *Not a Stick*, alongside a range of non-fiction texts closely linked to our wider learning, will inspire our work. We will also enjoy exploring poetry, developing a love of language while experimenting with words, sounds and ideas.

Maths

Our initial focus in Maths will be to secure our knowledge of place value. In order to do this, we will be working on sorting, counting and representing objects in different ways, using concrete resources such as counters, progressing onto pictorial representations. Once secure, we will then move on to counting, reading and writing numbers from 0 to 10, using a range of different representations, such as numerals, words, dice, dominoes and Numicon. We will be focussing on the correct formation of our numbers when writing them in our books. We will further explore finding one more and one less of numbers to ten and developing our ability to compare, group and order numbers. Towards the end of the half term, we will introduce ordinal numbers, such as 1st, 2nd and 3rd and begin looking at number lines and the positioning of numbers 0 – 10 within them. This will involve placing inconsecutive numbers along the number line, as well as spotting mistakes and missing numbers.

Science

In Science, we will be learning about plants, finding out what they need to grow to be strong and healthy, as well as naming common and wild plants found in UK gardens. Furthermore, we shall build upon their knowledge of the terms deciduous and evergreen to identify trees. By the end of the term, the children will be able to confidently identify and describe the basic structure of a plant. We will grow a bean and will watch them transform from seeds to plants, before bringing them home. Our science experiment will help the children to develop their understanding of what a fair test means and how to investigate a question. In groups, they will decide how they are going to set up their experiment and conclude the results.

Design and Technology

In Design and Technology, the children will be designing, creating and evaluating a felt flower badge, which focuses on many key skills including cutting, sticking and sewing. Before they make their badge, the children will research images of flower badges to help them decide on the colours and shapes they want to use. They will practice and develop their sewing skills using binca and beads before making their final product.

Geography

This term, the children will be introduced to a compass and the points of a compass. They will be given an opportunity to explore compasses, maps and map keys before creating their own simple map representation of Cale Park or our school grounds. We will be completing visits to Cale Park as part of our field work.

The Treemendous Outdoors!

Challenge – To identify and name common plants and trees and to name and label parts of a plant.

Independence – To understand how to care and look after their own plants.

Rationale:
In this learning experience, the children will develop an understanding of the outdoors and be able to identify names of common (wild and garden) trees, plants and flowers. It is important for the children to understand how plants grow, what they need to help them grow and to name their different parts. Throughout this learning experience, the children will be exploring and looking closely at a variety of different plants. They will use information books to find out more about the common plants in our local environment. By the end of this learning experience, the children will have an in-depth knowledge of a range of plants, trees and flowers, being able to name them as well as having developed an awe and wonder of the great outdoors.

Start Date: Monday 7th September 2026

End Date: Friday 23th October 2026

Hook:
We will go on an autumn welly walk to the park on Tuesday 15th September. We will discuss what can be seen and how our environment is changing due to the season. The children will collect objects and when they return to school, they will complete a variety of activities using natural resources collected on our walk. They will also take part in Forest School activities to inspire their curiosity in our wonderful outdoors!

Outcome:
The children will consolidate this term's learning and new knowledge about trees and plants on our trip to Stourhead. Date TBC.

Computing:
This term our focus in computing is Technology Around Us. The children will become more aware in the daily use of technology, not just in the form of tablets and phones. We will develop their ability to use a mouse when using a computer and their keyboard skills to type short sentences.

Take home task (Due in: 12th October) :

- Cook something yummy using as many plants as possible (take a photo)
- Create a poster that explains our seasons and how they change
- Grow your own plant (take photos)
- Create a fact file about a plant or tree of your choice. You can choose one or more of these options .

How you can support your child at home:
To listen to them read, at least 5 times a week.
To share stories and non-fiction books with them.
To learn to read and spell common exception words.
To learn number bonds to 10 and support them with their mental recall.
To be able to count forwards and backwards from any number within 100.
To complete the take home task: this task should be the child's own work and they must be able to speak confidently about what they have done.