

Reception: Knowledge Organiser: Spring 1: Let's go on an adventure!

Key books this half term:



We're Going on a Bear Hunt
Michael Rosen • Helen Oxenbury



We're Going on a Bear Hunt We're Going to find a Monster

We will be looking at these two stories and using them to create our own story maps. We will then use the story structure and repeated language to create our own versions.

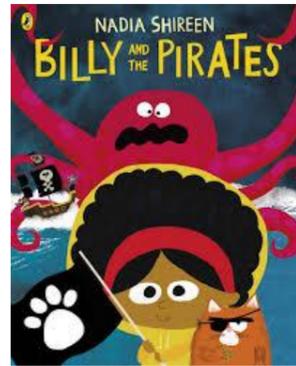
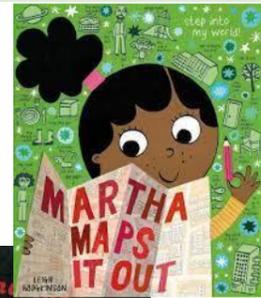
Vocabulary: Journey, map, setting, character



Betty and the Yeti Martha Maps it Out

We will be learning about Winter seasonal changes during our Winter walk of the local area. We will be thinking about what clothes we need for different weather. We will then look at maps of our local area and explore drawing and labelling our own maps of our route to school.

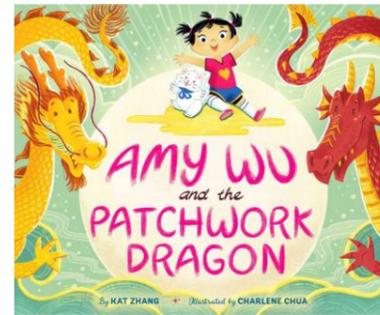
Vocabulary: winter, freezing, compare, symbol



Billy and the Pirates

We can't look at maps without looking at Pirates! We will be exploring treasure maps and learning how to draw maps with increasing detail using our imagination!

Vocabulary: map, direction, symbol, house, home, country, continent, land



Amy Wu and the Patchwork Dragon Emma Jane's Airplane

We will be learning about how people celebrate Lunar New Year and make comparisons to other familiar celebrations. We will be looking at traditional food and will try cooking a simple recipe together. There will be an opportunity for parents to come in and help with this- more information to follow.

Vocabulary: compare, celebrate, festival, landmark, climate,



How can you learn at home?

Seasons- Try to get out for a local walk and think about the comparisons of the things they can see in winter. Do the trees look the same as in summer? Are there more or less birds and animals to be seen? What kind of clothes are people wearing – thick clothes or not? Have you noticed that it gets dark earlier – why do you think that is?

Maps- Try creating your own maps of a favourite walk or even of your house! You could then use it to do a treasure hunt or you could gather items on your walk and create a journey collage. If you have any photos of houses/homes that you or someone you know has lived in in another country – we would love to see them to make comparisons!

Places around the world- Think about St Albans as a city and compare it to somewhere else that you have visited. Consider and compare what landmarks/things you saw? What was the climate like? Look through old holiday photos as a prompt. Can you find the place on a map? How close is it to St Albans?

🏠 Possible experiences:
Following the format of these books, children could create their own stories about going to find something (person, superhero, fluffy marshmallow).
Watch it live at the theatre:
<https://www.littleangeltheatre.com/whats-on/were-going-on-a-bear-hunt/>

🏠 Possible experiences:
Create your own treasure hunt- hide a special object around the house and make your own map with clues to help find it. You could encourage your child to use positional language to orally describe where it is. For example "Go under the table/go over the sofa." Don't forget to encourage them to use their phonics to try and label the different parts.

🏠 Possible experiences:
If you celebrate Lunar New Year, we would love to have you in to talk about your celebrations. We would also love any photographs of the children's grandparents when they were young – especially if they include noticeably different clothes or other items that we now do not have or have changed e.g. cars, prams, toys etc.



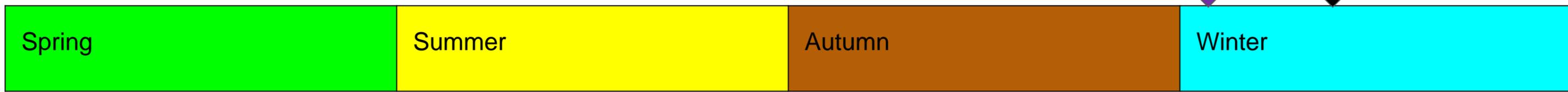
Christmas



Local environment walk



Lunar New Year



Phonics

So far we have learnt Phase 2 and Phase 3 sounds from the ELS phonics scheme. This half term we will be continuing Phase 3

The new sounds will be: **ar, ur, oo** (like in 'food'), **oo** (like in 'book') **or, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er, ow** (like 'snow').

The harder to read and spell words will include: **they, all, are, ball, tall, when, what.**

Glossary:

Digraph: two letters which make one sound

Trigraph: three letters which make one sound

Phoneme: the sound when it is spoken

Grapheme: the sound when it is written down



Phonics at home:

To practise at home, we suggest writing the sounds down on individual cards and showing them to your child. Focus on one sound at a time. Repeat the sound as often as you can. Once your child recognises the sound without any prompting you can then move onto the next one.

To put the sounds into a word you can use the following method:



Say it Stretch it Robot arms Blending hands Count the sounds Say the word again

Say it: **part**

Stretch it: **paaaaarrrrt** (stretch the word out loud)

Robot talk: **p-ar-t** (use robot arms to break up the sounds)

Blending hands: **part** (say the whole word after sounding out)

Count the sounds: **p (1), ar (2), t (3)** (count on your fingers how many sounds you can hear)

Say it: **part** (say the whole word out loud one more time)

Write it: Adult to write it first and hide it. Then child has a go.

PSHE: Jigsaw: Dreams, Goals and Challenges

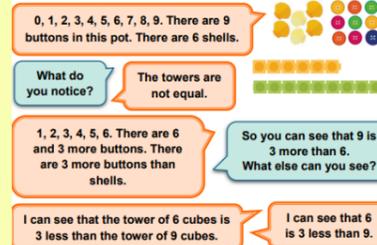
This half term we will be focusing on how to tackle challenges, setting goals and working towards them and linking what we do now to our futures.



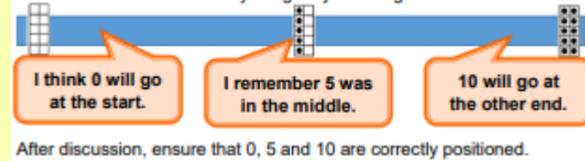
Maths: Number and measure

Positional language – we use positional language in our everyday lives. Instructions and tasks often require children to understand words like **on, under, behind, in front of.** We will be briefly exploring these words and their meanings.

Using counting to compare – We will be using our knowledge of counting and quantities to make simple comparisons and learn how to find the difference using 'how many more' and 'how many less'



Ordering and estimating – we will be looking at placing randomised numbers into the correct order. This draws on the children's understanding of the number line and the value of different digits.



Sharing – We will be learning to share amounts into groups using the language 'equal' and 'unequal' and noticing which numbers cannot be shared equally.

3D shape – We will be exploring the properties of 3D shapes and how to use them in our constructions.

Exploring addition – at the end of the term we will be moving on to combining two groups of numbers using practical resources. We will introduce them to the word 'addition' and extend children on to writing their own calculations.



PE: Gross motor skills

Our PE lessons begin this term and are on a **Friday** – please ensure your child has a PE kit in school.

We will be taking part in gymnastics sessions this half term. These sessions will be led indoors in our school hall. The children will learn how to make different shapes with their body and the correct terminology for these movements. The children will develop balance, co-ordination and core stability skills

Maths at home

Use positional language when giving your child instructions. Hide a toy and give clues that include positional language ('the teddy is **under** something soft').

Maths at home

Practise sharing toys, food or any other items fairly between different amounts of people. Does everyone have the same? Can it be shared equally? For example, have a picnic with your toys and share play food between you.

Maths at home

Go on a shape hunt when around your house or local area. Which 3D shapes can you spot? Are there some that are more difficult to find?



Understanding the World: Comparing local environments

This half term we will be making comparisons with our local area and other areas around the world – where we live, where we go to school, our local park, river etc. We will use maps to guide us to these places and support our understanding. We will also look at how the environment looks different in different seasons.

Key dates for the diary

Monday 19th January – Local Winter Walk – We will be going for a short walk around the local area. If you would like to volunteer to come with us, please get in touch!

Week beginning 9th February – Lunar New Year – We will be learning about Lunar New Year. If you celebrate it and would like to come in to talk to us about it, please let us know! We will also be doing some cooking on Monday 9th which you can volunteer to help us with. More info to follow nearer the time.

Tuesday 10th February : Maths Learn and Share – a chance to come in to school and join in with some maths based activities with your child. More info to follow.

Half term: Week beginning 16th February

Wednesday 4th March – 100 Day Party – more info to follow!