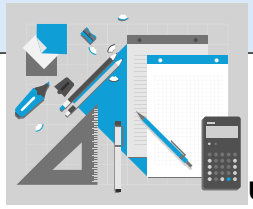
Curriculum - Term 1 September 2026

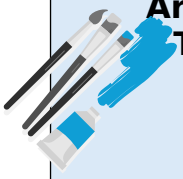
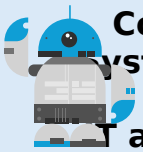
Squirrels – Year 2

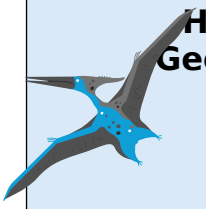
Topic for the Term	**Besides the Seaside**
	We will learn how seasides have changed over time, the specific geographical features and vocabulary and, where possible, keep the seaside theme woven through most subjects.

English	
Reading	• Children will share stories, predict what may happen and think of alternative plots and endings.
Whole class book	• The Storm Whale • The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch
Writing	**Children will write:** • **Narratives –** planning effective sentences, exploring synonyms to engage the reader • improve their writing and begin to re-read and edit our work • retell parts of a story and explore creating their own alternative • **Non-fiction -** look at the features of instructions and link this to our topic building sandcastles and making Harvest Soup.
Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation	**Children will:** • learn about statements, commands and questions • use full-stops, question marks, exclamation marks, commas and apostrophes for contraction • use verbs, adverbs, adjectives and nouns • follow the Little Wandle Phase 5 Review

How you can help at home	• Listen to your child read regularly. • Read stories that are beyond your child's ability exploring plot and unfamiliar vocabulary. • Share a story verbally – retell each other stories or alternate sentences with each other.

Maths	
 **ue**	**Children will:** • read, write and compare numbers to 100 and partition them • recognise and mark numbers on a number line and place value grid. • count in 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s.
Addition & Subtraction	• make number bonds to 10 and beyond • estimate and compe numbers • use number facts to check calculations • order objects • begin to problem solve in both written and practical scenarios • begin to add and subtract using a number line, part-whole models and place value chart.
How you can help at home	• Practise forming the numerals correctly in one movement (except for the digit 4). • Play simple board games using two dice – it is helpful if you practise adding and subtracting the dice. • Play **Hit the button** addition and subtraction to 10, 20 and beyond on www.topmarks.co.uk is great fun and only takes a minute.

Science Living Things and their habitats	**Children will:** • learn about a variety of habitats and the plants and animals that live there • tell the difference between things that are living, dead and things that have never been alive, and apply this to a range of concepts. • make observations of creatures in a local habitat investigating conditions and how they affect the minibeasts found within them • research a range of global habitats and how the living things that live there are suited to their environments.
 **Art & Design Technology**	**Children will:** • explore drawing and different media using them in a variety of ways to create different shades and marks • use pastels, crayons, chalks and charcoal recreating jellyfish art and looking at how to create movement in their work • linked to our Harvest Festival and science topic, learn how to chop, grate, peel and slice in Design and Technology and will create their own vegetable soup.
 **Computing ystems and networks T around us**	**Children will learn about:** • IT in School • IT in the World • The benefits of IT • how to use IT safely • using IT in different ways

 **History & Geography**	**In geography, children will:** • look at where coastal areas are found • identify them on maps, atlases and globes • discuss the different features of a seaside and their differences and similarities around the world identifying natural and man-made features • compare the similarities and differences of these features to our location • name, locate and identify features of the four countries that make up the United Kingdom and the surrounding seas In history, children will: • look at how seasides were used in the past and compare their use to today, identifying things that are different and the same.
Religious Education	**Creation (who made the world). Children will:** • explore the creation story. How does it make you feel? • think about who made the world? • think about if God made the world, how should people live? • Investigate what our school does for Harvest? • find out how Christians remember to be thankful to God every day • write their own grace prayers.
Physical Education	• On Wednesdays, children will have gymnastics with Mrs Mathur. • On Friday children will OAA Forest School with Mr Early.
RSHE	**Me and My Relationships Children will:** • explore what makes a good classroom, a good friend and how we must respect each other, even if we are different • learn about their feelings and spotting how other people feel • look at different types of bullying and learn how to say ‘Don’t do that’.
Music	**Children will:** **Ourselves** • listen and respond, exploring, creating sounds

	• explore sounds using voices, body percussion and instruments expressively • respond to changes in pitch **Out and about** • sing, play, explore and improvise • explore pitch and a call and response structure with voices and percussion instruments
Enrichment Ideas	• Bring in photos of you at the seaside. • Take a trip to a beach or harbour. • Visit a promenade, arcade or pier.
Suggested Reading	• Billy's Bucket, Garry Parsons & Kez Gray • Who Rules The Rockpool? Matty Long • At The Beach, Roland Harvey • Clean Up! Dapo Adeola & Nathan Byron • Clem and Crab, Fiona Lumbers