



2026-27 Curriculum newsletter Year 1 Term 1

Life in all its fullness
John 10:10

Our relevant, purposeful, enjoyable and creative curriculum is delivered through whole school topics on a two-year rolling programme. Science, history or geography are the key drivers for each topic and the subjects of art, design technology, music, computing and PSHE are added to enrich the topic. RE, PE and maths are taught as separate subjects. Every term, each class also tackle a "Big Question" and think of others through a "Social Action".

This term our whole school topic is entitled "**Changes**". All classes will have their own specific historical and scientific foci. The Year 1 children will be learning about the history of transport and about humans growing into adults, the importance of food and exercise, and about how animals grow. This will include learning;

- The history of transport, in particular cars
- About animals and their offspring
- Life cycles
- Music - rhythm



In phonics, the children will be recapping Chapter 2 and 3 sounds and then moving onto Chapter 4a sounds. This term's sounds are:

- Chapter 4a Set 1: 'oe'/oa/, 'ay'/ai/, 'ew'/oo/, 'ew'/ue/ and comparing 'ew' phonemes
- Chapter 4a Set 2: 'ea'/ee/, 'ey'/ee/, 'ie'/ee/, 'ie'/igh/ and comparing 'ie' phonemes
- Chapter 4a Set 3: 'aw'/or/, 'au'/or/, word endings 'ore'/or/, 'ir'/ur/ and 'oy'/oi/

Phonics Shed

The children will focus on the following writing skills:

- Practising letter formation
- Writing on the line
- Thinking about all the sounds they can hear in a word.



Our class books of the term are ...

All Aboard the London bus by Patricia Toht.

Monkey Puzzle by Julia Donaldson



PSHE (personal social health economic education)

From this academic year, we will be using a new resource called Pol-Ed to deliver the PSHE curriculum for all classes.



Pol-Ed is a resource created by West Yorkshire Police and specialist teachers to support schools in delivering Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education. It provides age-appropriate lessons that help children understand how to stay safe, make positive choices, and develop important life skills. **We will share more detail about these lessons in the following weeks.**

We will be continuing to use the themes from Heartsmart in our class worships and children / staff will still be able to nominate others for demonstrating Our People Rule / for being Heartsmart.



In **maths**, the children will be focusing on;

- Place Value within 10
- Addition and subtraction within 10

At home you can support your child by:

- Practise counting: Count forwards and backwards to 20, then 50. Try starting from different numbers, e.g. "Start at 7 and count to 20."
- Number bonds: Practise pairs of numbers that make 5,6,7,8,9 and 10, e.g. $6 + 4 = 10$. Use toys, buttons or fingers to help.
- Number spotting: Look for numbers around the house or when you are out. Ask, "What number is this?" and "What number comes before/after it?"
- Everyday adding and taking away. Use toys, food or objects to make simple calculations. For example, "You have 5 grapes and I give you 2 more. How many do you have now?"

Our **RE** work will focus on;

Creation
Who Made The World?

In **Computing**, the children will learn;

Online safety
and
How to use Purplemash

In **PE**, children will participate and focus on

- Healthy hearts
- Football

Children should wear PE kit on the following days;
Mondays and Thursdays.



Social Action

As a church school, we believe it is important to provide all children with the opportunity to be part of some 'social action'. Releasing the possibility of the pupils in our school to **serve the common good**. This may be in the form of **supporting a charity**, learning & sharing information about **issues of injustice**. Each class has a different Watch this space!

A "Big Question" will be discussed every term. Our "Big Question" for Term 1 is **How and why does the weather affect our mood?**



PTAFA Fete – Saturday 12th Sept, 12–3pm
Harvest service at Hernhill church – Tues 6th Oct, 9:30am
Individual & sibling photos – Mon 12th Oct
Last day of term 1 – Wed 21st Oct
Inset days (school closed) – Thurs 22nd & Fri 23rd Oct



SCIENCE

- Animals reproduce new animals when they reach maturity
- Animals grow until maturity and then don't grow any larger

HISTORY

- Describe different types of transport – purposes, and why needed
- Focus on one type of transport and investigate how it has changed – make a timeline

KEY VOCABULARY FOR THE TOPIC

growth, reproduction, reproduce, offspring, maturity, life cycle, stages, transport, vehicle, past, present, timeline, figurehead, sunrise, sunset, season



Our school community is rooted in Jesus' promise of life in all its fullness; where all are truly welcome.

A key aspect of being a Church school is the importance of senior leaders and governors regularly reflecting on our Christian vision and considering how it is having a positive impact on pupils, staff and families.

Our school's Christian vision is rooted in John's Gospel, chapter 10, where Jesus speaks to the Pharisees using the metaphor of the shepherd and the sheep. In this passage, Jesus explains that he has come so that all may have life in all its fullness: a life that is rich, meaningful and grounded in love.

Life in all its fullness – a state of being and an act of doing. It means more than simply existing or achieving; it is about becoming the person God created you to be. It is about nurturing curiosity, resilience and joy, discovering and developing individual gifts, and having the confidence to use them to serve others. It is a life shaped by hope, compassion and purpose – where each person knows they are uniquely valued and deeply loved.

Life in all its fullness is the WHY behind everything we do. It underpins our curriculum design, our policies, our enrichment and extra-curricular offer, our commitment to inclusive SEN provision, and our belief in the power of high-quality OPAL play. Every decision is rooted in a desire to widen horizons and enable all to thrive – academically, socially and spiritually.

Our Gospel-based People Rule (Luke 6:31) is the HOW we live out this vision at Hernhill. Jesus calls us to “treat others as you would like to be treated,” and this principle shapes a culture of kindness, respect and responsibility. It is easily understood by our children, staff and families, and acts as a golden thread running through daily life at Hernhill.