

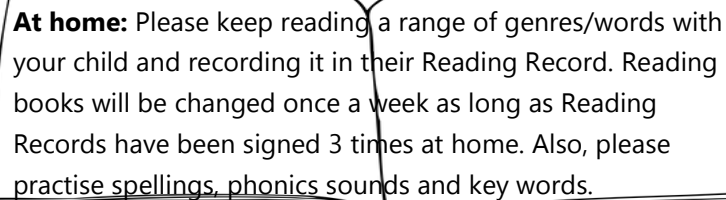


# Considerate Conkers

Spring

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a great break! Our new topic for this half term will be '**A Country Life**' and we are looking forward to investigating what it means to be part of the Leaving Community and being part of a family tree. We will also explore the artwork of David Hockney, who has painted many different countryside landscapes. In English, we will be reading several exciting books linked to our topic including: Superworm, My Body, Your Body, Kings and Queens, Little Princess Stories, Zog, Queen's Knickers and The Tooth Fairy's Royal Visit.



**At home:** Please keep reading a range of genres/words with your child and recording it in their Reading Record. Reading books will be changed once a week as long as Reading Records have been signed 3 times at home. Also, please practise spellings, phonics sounds and key words.

## Spellings on Monday afternoons

This half term, we are no longer going to carry out spelling 'tests' with the children. I believe it will be much more effective if the children join in fun spelling games and activities on a Monday afternoon to help them learn their particular spellings for that week.

For homework, to show that the children have been practising their spellings at home, and understand the correct definitions, it would be great to see the following:

- The Reception children to read, and practise spelling and writing their tricky words.
- The year 1s to write 1 sentence using at least 3 different words from the spelling list they will be given each week.
- The year 2s to write 2 sentences using at least 5 different words from the spelling list they will be given each week.

The children will be awarded house points for sentences with capital letters and punctuation in the correct places. Their efforts will definitely be acknowledged, so they are welcome to write more sentences if they would like to.

## Plea to Parents

Please can we have lots of large scale junk modelling materials for our 'castles in the countryside'? **Can we have these the week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> March please?**

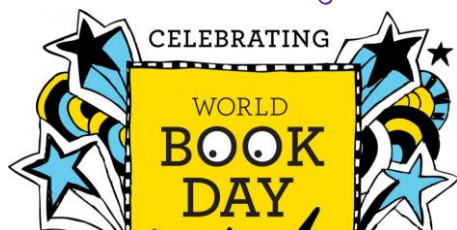
Also, please could we have any donations of wool, particularly in white, black, brown, yellow and pink! Thank you so much.

If anyone has any shells, sticks, cardboard tubes such as kitchen roll/ wrapping paper tubes or bottle corks for our natural objects craft area, please send those in too. Thank you!

## Tapestry

We will be continuing to use Tapestry as our tool for recording the developmental steps for our **Reception** children so don't forget to check in and have a look at what they have been doing and add any pictures and comments of their achievements and activities at home.

### World Book Day



On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March, children will be asked to dress up as a particular book character. If possible, it would be even better if they can bring in a copy of the book that their character is in, as they will be carrying out various activities relating to the books, throughout the day.

### Dates for the Diary!

2/3/20, 3/3/20 & 4/3/20- Parent's Open Day  
5/3/20- World Book Day  
16/3/20 & 17/3/20- Parent Meetings  
17/3/20- Bring a pet to school day  
19/3/20- FOLS cheese and wine quiz 6-8:30  
23/3/20- Parent Open Day  
27/3/20- Easter Assembly  
3/4/20- Break up for Easter  
20/4/20- Back to school

### Teaching timetable

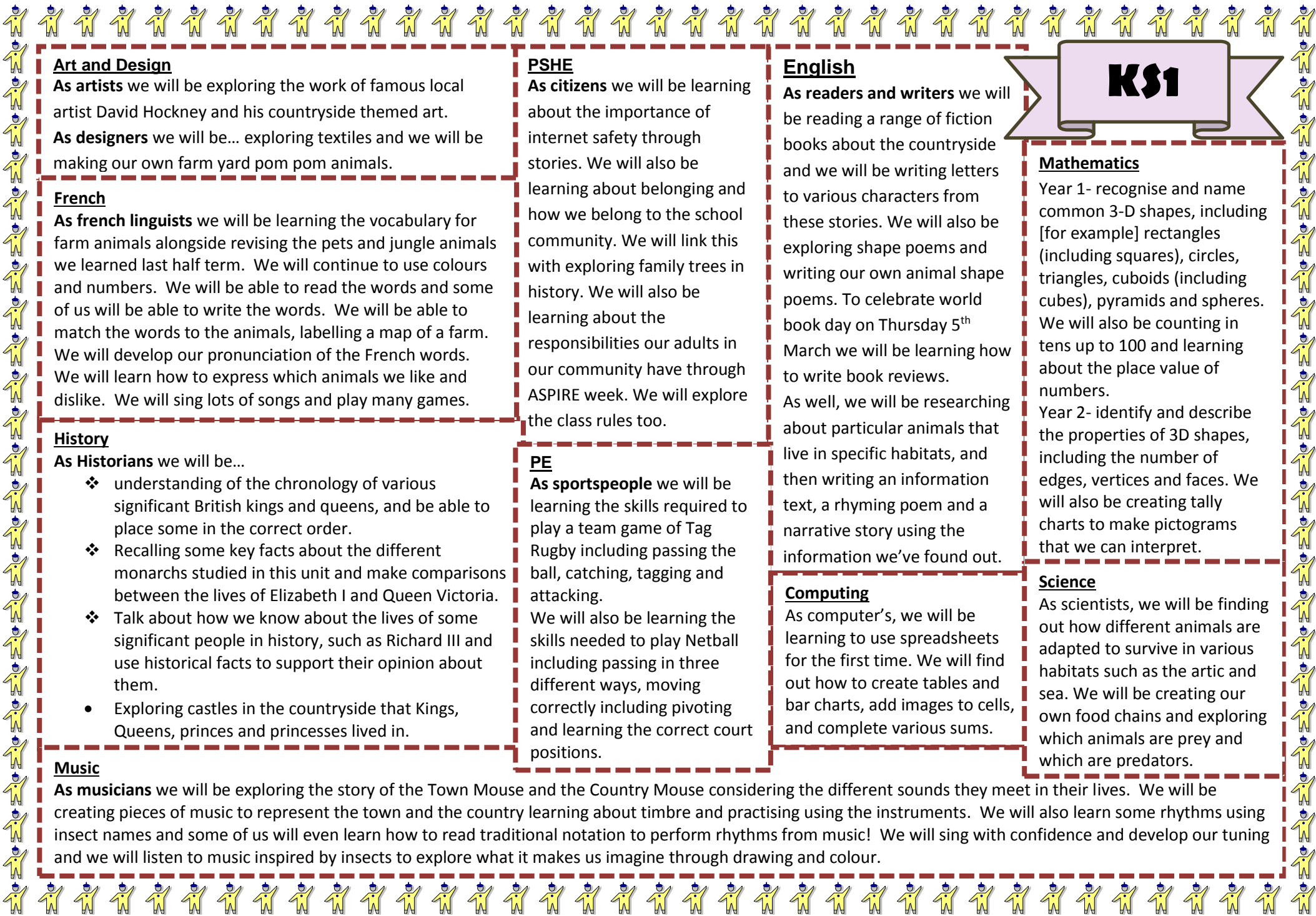
Monday: Mrs Milson  
Tuesday: Mrs Milson  
Wednesday: AM Mrs Milson  
                  PM Mrs Marshall  
Thursday: Mrs Mitchell  
Friday: Mrs Mitchell incl PE,  
          Mrs Stockill for French  
          and Mrs Marshall for Art

### Incredible Hand Writers

The children have been working extremely hard to improve their hand writing. It is fabulous to see the reception children beginning to form their letters independently and confidently. It is also amazing to see the year 1 and 2 children starting to join their letters with cursive handwriting.  
**Keep up the great work Conkers!**

### ASPIRE Week!

During the week commencing 30<sup>th</sup> March, various adults will be visiting the children and explaining what responsibilities they have in the local community. Hopefully, this will be inspiring for the children and give them more ideas about what opportunities there are for them in the future.



# KS1

## Art and Design

**As artists** we will be exploring the work of famous local artist David Hockney and his countryside themed art.

**As designers** we will be... exploring textiles and we will be making our own farm yard pom pom animals.

## French

**As french linguists** we will be learning the vocabulary for farm animals alongside revising the pets and jungle animals we learned last half term. We will continue to use colours and numbers. We will be able to read the words and some of us will be able to write the words. We will be able to match the words to the animals, labelling a map of a farm. We will develop our pronunciation of the French words. We will learn how to express which animals we like and dislike. We will sing lots of songs and play many games.

## History

**As Historians** we will be...

- ❖ understanding of the chronology of various significant British kings and queens, and be able to place some in the correct order.
- ❖ Recalling some key facts about the different monarchs studied in this unit and make comparisons between the lives of Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria.
- ❖ Talk about how we know about the lives of some significant people in history, such as Richard III and use historical facts to support their opinion about them.
- Exploring castles in the countryside that Kings, Queens, princes and princesses lived in.

## Music

**As musicians** we will be exploring the story of the Town Mouse and the Country Mouse considering the different sounds they meet in their lives. We will be creating pieces of music to represent the town and the country learning about timbre and practising using the instruments. We will also learn some rhythms using insect names and some of us will even learn how to read traditional notation to perform rhythms from music! We will sing with confidence and develop our tuning and we will listen to music inspired by insects to explore what it makes us imagine through drawing and colour.

## PSHE

**As citizens** we will be learning about the importance of internet safety through stories. We will also be learning about belonging and how we belong to the school community. We will link this with exploring family trees in history. We will also be learning about the responsibilities our adults in our community have through ASPIRE week. We will explore the class rules too.

## PE

**As sportspeople** we will be learning the skills required to play a team game of Tag Rugby including passing the ball, catching, tagging and attacking. We will also be learning the skills needed to play Netball including passing in three different ways, moving correctly including pivoting and learning the correct court positions.

## English

**As readers and writers** we will be reading a range of fiction books about the countryside and we will be writing letters to various characters from these stories. We will also be exploring shape poems and writing our own animal shape poems. To celebrate world book day on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March we will be learning how to write book reviews. As well, we will be researching about particular animals that live in specific habitats, and then writing an information text, a rhyming poem and a narrative story using the information we've found out.

## Computing

**As computer's,** we will be learning to use spreadsheets for the first time. We will find out how to create tables and bar charts, add images to cells, and complete various sums.

## Mathematics

Year 1- recognise and name common 3-D shapes, including [for example] rectangles (including squares), circles, triangles, cuboids (including cubes), pyramids and spheres. We will also be counting in tens up to 100 and learning about the place value of numbers.

Year 2- identify and describe the properties of 3D shapes, including the number of edges, vertices and faces. We will also be creating tally charts to make pictograms that we can interpret.

## Science

**As scientists,** we will be finding out how different animals are adapted to survive in various habitats such as the arctic and sea. We will be creating our own food chains and exploring which animals are prey and which are predators.

## EYFS - Understanding the World

As investigators we will be...

- Investigating materials and their properties and what they can be used for.
- Looking at seasonal changes and how this affects the weather, plants and animals.

### At home:

Look at different media such as artwork and texts, and research the famous artists and authors using books and the internet.

## Mathematics

As mathematicians we will be...

- recognising, ordering and using numerals 0-10+
- counting objects accurately and saying the number in a set.
- beginning to use mathematical names for 'solid' 3-D shapes and mathematical terms to describe shapes
- Selecting a particular named shape

### At home:

Practice counting objects  
Notice and recognise numbers in the environment,  
Encourage correct number formation and ordering.

## Literacy

We will be...

- Exploring our new class stories
- Learning all the Phase 2 and 3 phonic sounds and how to blend them to read words and segment words for writing.
- Developing our letter formation and writing skills so that we can write our names

### At home:

Vary the types of genre you read. Enjoy some poems, magazines, posters and stories and Non-fiction.

Practice key words.

Keep reading your reading books – **Please comment or sign their reading record book when you have read with your child. Once it has been signed 3 times, we will change Thanks**

Keep practising key words – reading and spelling and making sentences with them.

## Physical

We will be...

- Focussing on our fine motor skills using pencil grip/control, scissor, pincers and buttons, etc.
- Continuing to work on our handwriting skills
- Thinking about keeping our selves healthy and safe whilst working outdoors.

### At home:

Use small construction toys to help with fine motor skills

Practice correct letter formation

Practice safety at home

Talk about how you keep fit and healthy – keep a diary of what you have to eat. Is it healthy? Or daily routines like brushing teeth and hair, keeping clean and exercising.

## Communication and Language

We will be...

- Developing our listening skills though stories, rhymes and circle times.
- Continue to develop our speaking skills through role play and reporting on things that interest us or things we have found out.
- Extending our vocabulary related to our topic and new interests.

### At home:

Take part in role play. Enjoy sharing and retelling stories and rhymes.

## PSED

As part of Leavening family we will be...

- Exploring the rules of the school and class.
- Discussing how to be a good friend and role model.
- Investigating how our behaviour affects other people.
- Using 'Growth mind set' to support being the 'best we can be' and have positivity to our lives.

# EYFS

## EYFS - Expressive Arts and Design

We will be...

- Exploring colours and learning how to use powder paint and creating patterns
- Listening to different sounds to show different materials and characters.

### At home:

Listen to a variety of different music genres and see how the different types makes you feel. Look for interesting materials in the environment to create pictures or models. Use different coloured paper and card to create a collage.