

## Year 2, Spring Newsletter 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year everyone! We hope you've had an enjoyable Christmas and feel ready for an exciting Spring term.



This term we are basing our teaching and learning around J.M. Barrie's story, *Peter Pan*. In our English lessons, we will immerse ourselves in the characters and plot of the story to produce some exciting story writing of our own. In addition to lots of creative writing, the children will learn about imperative verbs and write instructions for finding Neverland. In our non-fiction work, we will research crocodiles and write our own fact sheets. We will also learn about the life of J.M. Barrie.

For Maths, our focus will be on money, multiplication and division, length, mass, and capacity. Children will apply place value and addition/subtraction skills to calculate the total of coins under £1. In multiplication and division, we will explore equal and unequal groups, linking repeated addition to multiplication using appropriate language. In measurement, we'll focus on length and height in centimetres, compare the mass of objects, read scales, and measure liquids and temperature.

Our theme links closely to our Science inquiries. We will explore materials by investigating which are best for building a boat to help Wendy escape and which are most suitable for flying. We will also examine the properties of different materials to decide which would make the best shadow for Peter.



After half term, our focus shifts to learning about life cycles. We will explore how animals grow and change over time, including the life cycles of humans, animals, and plants. Children will observe, compare, and describe these stages, developing their ability to ask questions, make observations, and use scientific vocabulary to explain how living things develop.

In our humanities lessons, we will explore our local area, mapping our Victorian school and thinking about how it used to look compared to today. We will note how the rooms have changed use and create a floor plan. We will also map our school grounds, as well as the local area, using keys and compasses.

After half term, in our History sessions we will look at what homes in the past were like, focusing on the Edwardian/Victorian era, when *Peter Pan* was written. Please save any shoeboxes you have for our dolls' house project. For a hands-on experience, we will visit Christchurch Mansion to find out how children lived and what was expected of them.



In D&T we will explore old-fashioned toys and have a go at making our own, focusing on different mechanisms. We will be making mini jack-in-the-boxes, flipbooks, thaumatropes, and puppets. In Art, we will explore pottery and different boxes to store

treasure in. The children will design their own treasure pot using a coil or pinch pot method, and then engrave and decorate it.

In our Thursday PE session, we will focus on dance; pupils will create simple dance phrases with a clear beginning and end based on Victorian childhood. The focus will be the working life of Victorian children and toy dances from *The Nutcracker*. Pupils will learn to communicate different moods, feelings, and expressions using their faces and posture in response to different stimuli. In the second half of the term, we will explore different methods of movement linked to searching for treasure on Peter Pan's island and Victorian playground games.

During our Monday afternoon Forest School sessions, we will set trails in the hollow for the children to role-play Peter Pan and the other characters, living on an island and building dens.

*Peter Pan* was written over 100 years ago, and in our PHSE sessions we will discuss the role of the girls in the story and how this differs today. We will set ourselves goals, identify our strengths, and talk about how we can stay motivated when something is challenging. This term's value for the whole school is **Respect**. Pupils who show respect to others will be recognised and praised. A citizen of the week will be selected, and their name displayed on the board by the hall.

**RoK words:** Below is a list of topic based vocabulary for this term. We will learn the meanings of these words and include them in our writing where possible.

<i>Reptile</i>	<i>perilous</i>	<i>fate</i>	<i>decade</i>	<i>design</i>
<i>Loyalty</i>	<i>mysterious</i>	<i>menacing</i>	<i>century</i>	<i>interior</i>
<i>treachery</i>	<i>mischievous</i>	<i>perish</i>	<i>monarch</i>	<i>location</i>
<i>Fantasy</i>	<i>gallant</i>	<i>quest</i>	<i>Victorian</i>	<i>aerodynamic</i>
<i>Lagoon</i>	<i>rogue</i>	<i>courage</i>	<i>venture</i>	<i>conceited</i>

*As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do come and speak to me at the end of the day or send a note via the school office and I will get back to you as soon as I can.*

*Best wishes,*

*Mrs Johns*