

Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2025

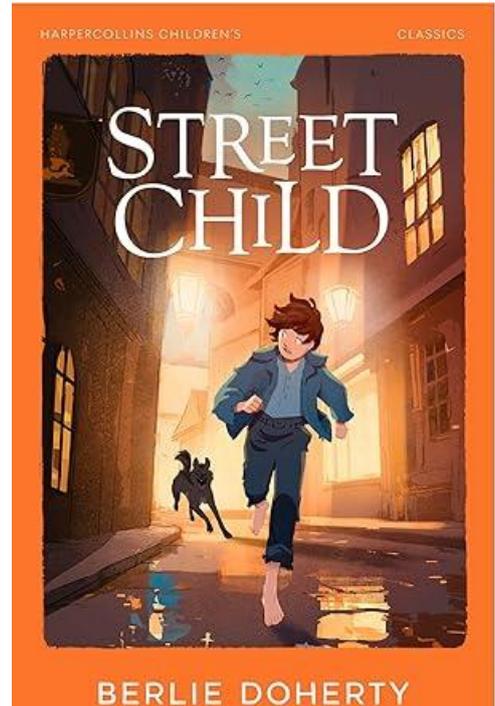
Fox Class

'From Slate to Screen'

This term, our topic is "From Slate to Screen", and we'll be diving into the fascinating School Days from the Victorian era. The children will be stepping back in time to discover what life was like in the classrooms, learning about the routines, lessons and resources children used back then – from chalk and slates to ink and copybooks. They'll also be finding out about Queen Victoria and why she was such an important figure in British history. Along the way, the children will compare Victorian schooling with their own experiences today, exploring how learning has changed all the way through to modern technology and interactive screens. It's going to be an exciting journey that helps them see just how far education has come!

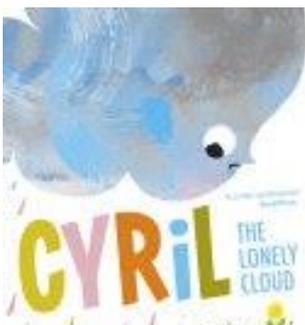
Maths

In maths this term, we'll be following the White Rose Maths scheme, which helps children build strong number sense and problem-solving skills. In Year 2, children will be developing their understanding of place value, learning to partition numbers in different ways, and practising strategies for addition and subtraction. They'll also be exploring money, measuring length, and recognising 2D and 3D shapes. In Year 3, children will be working with larger numbers, practising written methods for all four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division), and beginning to explore fractions in more depth. They'll also be learning to tell the time more accurately, investigate length and perimeter, and build on their knowledge of shapes. Throughout the term, children will be encouraged to explain their thinking, solve problems in practical contexts, and grow in confidence as mathematicians.



English

In English, this first half term, we'll be diving into the delightful story Cyril the Lonely Cloud. The children will be exploring Cyril's journey to help them think about themes such as friendship, belonging and kindness, which will inspire a range of different writing tasks. They will be developing their vocabulary, experimenting with sentence structure, and writing in different styles – from descriptive pieces and diary entries to letters and short narratives. Alongside this, the children will continue to build their reading comprehension skills, practise spelling patterns, and consolidate their use of punctuation and grammar. This unit is designed



to encourage creativity and imagination while also giving the children plenty of opportunities to grow as confident, thoughtful writers. After half term, our English focus will shift to the classic story *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes. The children will explore this exciting text in depth, developing their writing across a range of styles. They will practise writing vivid character descriptions, imagining scenes from different perspectives, composing newspaper reports about key events, and creating their own dramatic retellings of the story. Throughout this unit, we will continue to build important skills in reading comprehension, spelling, punctuation, and grammar, while also encouraging creativity, imagination, and confident self-expression. By the end of the term, the children will have enjoyed a rich mix of reading and writing experiences, connecting their learning to the stories they love.



Science

This autumn term, Year 2 students will be exploring the world around them through hands-on science activities. They will learn about the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival, and classify animals into groups such as mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, and reptiles. Children will also explore how humans stay healthy through proper nutrition and exercise, discovering the importance of a balanced diet and regular physical activity. In addition, they will investigate everyday materials, comparing their properties and experimenting with how materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting, and stretching. Throughout the term, students will develop their scientific skills by asking questions, making observations, and carrying out simple experiments, all while having fun and discovering the natural world around them.

This term in Year 3 science, children will explore grouping and classifying living things, learning how to sort animals and plants using their features, understand the differences between vertebrates and invertebrates, and use classification keys to identify a variety of organisms. They will also study states of matter, investigating solids, liquids, and gases, and observing how materials can change from one state to another through melting, freezing, and evaporation. Throughout the term, children will develop their scientific skills by carrying out practical experiments, making careful observations, and explaining their findings, helping them to think like real scientists while having fun exploring the world around them.

Art

This term in the fox class, the children will be exploring the work of William Morris, a famous British artist and designer known for his beautiful repeating patterns and nature-inspired prints. Children will learn about how he used printing techniques to create decorative wallpapers and textiles. They will look closely at his use of flowers, leaves, and animals in his designs, and use this as inspiration to create their own repeating patterns. Children will also have the opportunity to experiment with block printing, learning how to transfer their own designs onto paper through making their own printing blocks.



Autumn 2

We will then move onto drawing and painting, looking at Victorian toys. We will experiment with primary and secondary colours. We will learn about the artist William Nicholson who created simple, bold still-life paintings and illustrations, many of which feature toys, household objects, and scenes from everyday life. He also illustrated children's books, including *The Velveteen Rabbit*.



Computing

This term in Computing, our Year 2 and 3 children will be exploring Digital Music, linking their learning to the composer Gustav Holst and his famous suite, The Planets. They will listen to and discuss how music can be used to represent mood, movement, and even space-themed ideas. Using Chrome Music Lab, a fun and accessible digital tool, the children will experiment with creating their own short musical pieces. They'll learn how to use rhythm, pitch, and patterns to compose music that reflects different planets, just like

Holst did. This creative project will help them develop both their musical understanding and digital skills.

RE

This term in RE, the Fox Class will explore the theme "What is the good news that Christians say Jesus brings?". They will learn about the concept of the 'Gospel' and the good news of forgiveness, peace, and love that Christians believe Jesus brings. They will study the story of Matthew the Tax Collector, understanding how Christians believe that Jesus offers forgiveness by looking at the heart rather than past actions.

Students will also explore the teachings of Jesus and how Christians follow his example to live in a Christ-like way. The focus will then shift to considering whether Jesus' good news is only for Christians or if there are aspects that people from different worldviews can also appreciate. Through these teachings, students will develop an understanding of Christian beliefs and values, fostering respect and empathy for different perspectives.

PE

This autumn, Year 2 students are diving into an action-packed PE schedule! Each Monday, they should bring their full PE kit to school, ready for a week of fun and learning.



Wednesdays – Football with Mr. Lovelass

On Wednesdays, Fox Class will be honing their football skills with Mr. Lovelass during 'Merry Go Round' day. They'll practice dribbling, passing, and shooting, and learn how to work together as a team. These activities help develop coordination, balance, and teamwork.

Thursdays – Dodgeball Fun

Thursdays are all about dodgeball! Students will learn to dodge, throw, and catch in a safe and supportive environment. They'll develop agility, spatial awareness, and communication skills while having fun with their classmates.

Both sessions are designed to be inclusive and engaging, ensuring every child has the opportunity to develop their physical skills and confidence.

Music

Mr Pester, our music specialist teacher, will be teaching the fox class on a Wednesday. This term, the children will be learning to play the guitar! They'll start with the basics, like how to hold the guitar properly and press the right notes, and then move on to playing full chord progressions. Along the way, they'll get creative by combining their writing skills with their music to make group compositions. They'll also have the chance to listen to live performances and discover how rhythm, melody, and chords come together to make great music.

PSHE

This autumn term in PSHE, children in the fox class will be exploring key themes of self-awareness, relationships, and diversity. Being Me in My World, will help children understand their emotions, develop a sense of belonging, and recognize their role within a group. They will focus on building self-esteem, setting simple goals, and learning how to take responsibility for their actions. In the second half of the term, Celebrating Difference, children will learn to appreciate and respect what makes everyone unique, encouraging kindness, empathy, and inclusion. Alongside this, children will also further develop their emotional literacy, identifying and naming a range of emotions and learning healthy ways to express and manage them. Through engaging stories, discussions, and practical activities, your child will be supported in building strong emotional and social foundations for life.

How you can help at home

To best help support your child at home, please use the **Doodle Learning** apps as much as possible. I recommend 3 to 4 times a week.

You will find your child's log in for this, in the front of their reading diary. I suggest downloading all four apps to a phone/tablet, so they can easily be accessed at home in the evenings/weekends. It can also be accessed via a laptop, following this address: <https://doodlelearning.com/#student-popup>

Please **read daily** at home too. Your child will bring home a book wallet with their reading diary and book in. Please write the title of the book and comment in these. Some children will be bringing home a Read Write Inc bookbag book, whereas others will be bringing home an accelerated reader book (book with a number on the side). These need to come into school each day.

Your child might like to bring in a healthy snack each day, this can be kept in their tray.

Please can you make sure that your child's water bottle is clearly named as the children hand them out daily, and it makes this process much quicker!

Please can I ask that your child only brings in their blue PE kit and green forest school kit bags. Our cloak room gets very full if other bags from home come in. If you need a new bag, please let me know.

Thank you 😊

I look forward to seeing you at the end of each half term for family sharing mornings.

Mrs Langdon and Mrs Cook.

Fox Class Team

