Nacton C of E Primary School

Half Termly Newsletter

Reception and Year 1 – Spring 2 2026

Dear families,
Below you will find an overview of our curriculum this half term and what we will be learning in each subject. If you have any questions, please do come and speak to your class teachers.
We would like to thank you for your continued support and engagement with your child's learning. Please ensure that you look at the homework requirements below to ensure that your child is reaching the expectations, if you are unable to access the homework at home please speak to your class teacher.
Team Nacton

Literacy

EYFS

- Name writing (First and last name)
- writing short phrases and short sentences with a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop.

Year One:

- Using 'and' and 'because' to join and extend sentences.
- To write words phonetically, using the grow the code and alternative graphemes.
- To be able to re-read our work to make sure it makes sense, and to make changes for it to make sense.

Phonics

EYFS

Week 1 review Phase 3: ai ee igh oa oo ar or ur oo ow oi ear
Week 2 review Phase 3: er air words with double letters longer words
Week 3 words with two or more digraphs
Week 4 longer words words ending in –ing compound words
Week 5 longer words words with s in the middle /z/ s words ending –s words with –es at end /z/

Tricky words: was you they my by all are sure pure

Year One:
Week 1 /ur/ or word /oo/ u oul awful would /air/ are share /or/ au aur oor al author dinosaur floor walk once laugh

Week 2 /ch/ tch match /ch/ ture adventure /ar/ al half* /ar/ a father* because eye

Week 3 /or/ a water, Schwa in longer words: different /o/ a want, /air/ ear ere bear there

Week 4 /ur/ ear learn /r/ wr wrist /s/ st sc whistle science Schwa at the end of words: actor

Week 5 /c/ ch school /sh/ ch chef /z/ /s/ ce se ze freeze

Tricky words: once, laugh, because, eye

Communication & Language

EYFS

Our focus in Communication and language are the follow Early Learning Goals that need to be met by the end of the year:

-Listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions when being read to and during whole class discussions and small group interactions.
-Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding.
-Hold conversation when engaged in back-and-forth exchanges with their teacher and peers

Year 1

Orally rehearsing our sentences before writing them.

Explaining how we know an answer.

Maths

EYFS

In Maths this half term we continue learning:

- Subitising
- Composition
- Cardinality
- Comparison
- Numbers 1-10

We will build onto the above by learning:

- 1 more, 1 less
- Numbers from 6-9 are made from 5 and 'a bit'.
- learning the pattern of counting from 20's is similar to counting 1-9.

Year One

- Mastering number
- place value within 50
- Length and height
- Mass and volume

Science

(Understanding the World- EYFS)

This half term in science we will be learning our second unit on everyday materials.

- The use of materials and why they are suitable for specific objects
- Explore a variety of fabrics and their properties
- Properties of glass and their uses.
- Understand that a variety of materials and used to make furniture.

Geography

(Understanding the World- EYFS)

This half term children will be learning about oceans and continents.

EYFS

- Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps.
- Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and (when appropriate) maps.

Year 1

- Name and locate the continents and oceans
- Use a key on a map
- Identify physical and human features
- Understand directional language (north, east, south and west)

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (Reception)

Reception will be learning how to:

-Work and play cooperatively and take turns with others.
-Form positive attachments to adults and friendships with peers.
-Show sensitivity to their own and to others' needs

YR and Y1: Citizenship

Explain why the class and school rules are important.
Discuss the different needs of a range of pets.
Describe some of the needs of babies and young children.

Physical Development

PE this half term we will be looking **at games and gymnastics**. PE will be on a Monday and Thursday. Please ensure your child is in appropriate clothing for PE on these days.

This half term the EYFS children will continue to practice putting on their coats. This forms part of our end of year assessments please support your children in achieving this goal by giving them plenty of practice in putting their own coats on.

Reception early learning goals to be met by the end of the year:
-Negotiate space and obstacles safely, with consideration for themselves and others.
-Demonstrate strength, balance and coordination when playing.

RE

In R.E YR and Y1 will be learning about Judaism. Oure question will be:

Why do Jewish families say so many prayers and blessings?

Recognise some similarities and differences between themselves and others. Identify some groups which they belong to.	-Move energetically, such as running, jumping, dancing, hopping, skipping and climbing. -Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases. -Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paintbrushes and cutlery. -Begin to show accuracy and care when drawing.	
Computing (Year 1) In computing, the children will be learning about digital photography. They will consider what makes a good photo, take portrait and landscape photos with an ipad and find out how light effects can enhance their photos.	Music (Expressive arts and design). In music, the children will experience and explore vocal and body sounds within the topic By the Sea. EYFS Early learning goals: -Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs. -Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and (when appropriate) try to move in time with music.	Design Technology (D.T) (Expressive arts and design). In DT, the children will evlauatung lunch box designs. They will design, make and improve their own lunch boxes designed to keep a pirate's lunch fresh and safe.

Important dates:	Home learning expectations:
3rd March – World book day 20th March - Red nose day	Every Friday the children will bring home a library book to promote a love of reading. These books need to be returned to school on Wednesday each week to ensure your child can pick a new book on Friday. When your child reads their Little Wandle book, or if you read their library book together, please can this be logged into their reading diaries. Please can reading diaries be brought in every Friday, so that we can check these. Thank you. EYFS: - Sharing their Little Wandle and story book a minimum three times a week- please record this in their reading diary. The repetition of the same book and sounds helps children develop fluency in reading which is an essential skill. - Maths homework will be shared weekly. This will be on numbots or tapestry. Year 1: Times table rock stars 'garage' session. 15 minutes a week: 2x, 5x 10x tables. Read at home at least 3 times a week and record this in their reading diaries.