

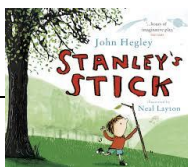
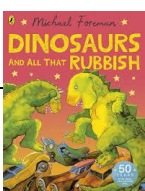
Pepperpots Class Newsletter Spring 1 2026

Our topic for this half term is 'Amazing Activists.'

English

This term in English, we are using the same scheme as last half term called *Literacy Tree*. *Amazing Activists*, links brilliantly with our texts; *Dinosaurs and all that Rubbish and Stanley's Stick*. Using *Dinosaurs and all that Rubbish* by Michael Foreman, children explore the themes and ideas in the story, such as dreams, desires and how to keep the earth a nice place to call home. They will create a variety of written outcomes including reports, setting descriptions, letters, instructions, retellings, simile sentences about their dreams, and eventually a class pamphlet about how to look after the planet – all to help the man in the story.

Using *Stanley's Stick* by John Hegley and Neal Layton, children begin by discovering their own sticks, using these as imaginary objects before then writing an entry for a class book about their stick. They are then introduced to the book and use the first page to ask questions and make inferences about the story. Children then go on to explore and write about the different ways that Stanley uses his stick and to make suggestions for how he can use his stick at the seaside. Children connect with the main character by writing a thought bubble and a postcard in role, before then going on to plan and write their own version of the story with their own choice of object.



Maths

Reception – In maths, Reception will be doing units of work from our White Rose Maths scheme. These are: Alive in five, Mass and Capacity and Growing 6, 7, 8.



This term in Year 1, the children are focusing on place value within 20. They are learning to count, read, and write numbers up to 20, as well as recognize tens and ones using practical objects and visual models. The children are also exploring adding and subtracting within 20, using number lines, drawings, and practical activities to build confidence. These hands-on activities help children develop a solid understanding of numbers and their relationships, providing a strong foundation for more advanced calculations later in the year.

	Tens	Ones
12		
3		

$$\begin{array}{c} 12 \\ \swarrow \searrow \\ 10 \quad 2 \end{array} + 3 = \square$$

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Science / Understanding the World

This term, our Year 1 scientists are going to be exploring materials and observing changes all around them! They will be mending torn umbrellas, testing which materials are water-resistant, watching ice melt, designing ways to free frozen figures, and making their own puddles to see what happens over time. Through these exciting, hands-on activities, our students will develop curiosity, problem-solving skills, and a real love for exploring the world through science.



Phonics

Children have been put into groups which are also now on Dojo. Each group will focus on the sounds and learning to meet their individual needs.



History

This term in History, the children are going to be learning about remarkable individuals who showed courage in the face of injustice. They will listen to the story of Rosa Parks and reflect on her decision to stand up against unfair treatment, creating pictures to show that fairness is kindness and that we all have a voice. They will also learn about Malala Yousafzai and produce posters to capture moments of her bravery. Through these activities, students will develop empathy, understanding, and an appreciation for the impact of standing up for what is right.



Design & Technology

This term in Design & Technology, the children are going to be exploring how everyday items can be recycled and reused. They will look at the life cycle of a can and understand how it can be given a new purpose. They will draw their own designs for new uses—such as a pencil pot, bug hotel, plant pot, or lantern—then write up a plan and make a list of the equipment they will need. Finally, they will create their products and put them to use for their intended purpose, developing creativity, planning skills, and practical problem-solving along the way.



PSED (Heart Smart)

The focus for this half term is 'Too much Selfie Isn't Healthy.' We will learn that there are special things we like to do with special people. All families are important and special but other people's families may look different to ours. Our other learning links really nicely with our RE this half term as we will also think about how we can show love to others when they need help. We will thank all of the people who help us at school.



Computing

This term in Computing, our KS1 are going to be learning about Internet Safety through the Kapow program. They will explore how to stay safe online, understand what personal information should and shouldn't be shared, and learn how to be responsible digital citizens. Through practical activities and discussions, children will develop the skills to use technology safely and confidently, making positive choices when they are online.



RE

Music

PE

This term, we are still focusing on our Understanding Christianity scheme thinking about Salvation how we can help others when they need it. We will learn that Christians believe that Jesus came to show God's love. We will focus on the story of the Good Samaritan and how Jesus told the story to someone who needed to understand that anyone 'in need' was someone we should try to help.



We will focus on music and movement. Children come up with simple actions to well-known songs, learn how to move to a beat and express feelings and emotions through movement to music.



This term, the children will enjoy **Dance** in the church, creating their own movement sequences, exploring shapes with their bodies, and moving in time with the music.

On Thursdays Mr Jones will continue **multisport outdoors with a focus on football. The children will also be** developing skills in a range of games and activities. These sessions help build coordination, rhythm, creativity, confidence, teamwork, and self-expression.



If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to message on dojo or see us at the door.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss JC, Miss Bradford & Mrs Mulligan