



Topic Learning Letter

Year One – Autumn 2








Topic	Our topic this half term is 'The Toy Maker'. We will be learning all about the history of toys and how they have changed over the years from toys with mechanisms, to toys using a large amount of technology. We will also be holding our own Katherine Semar Museum of Childhood where we will be showcasing our toys from home.
Launch and Land	We are going to launch our topic this half term with our Toys from the Past Museum. For this, we will invite parents, carers and grandparents into school to share toys from their childhood. We will also explore old toys from the Saffron Walden Museum. We will discuss how toys have changed, as well as looking at the different materials that the toys are made from. We will land our topic by having a Katherine Semar Museum of Childhood where the children will host their own museum all about their own toys. They will create posters to advertise, and labels so everyone can learn about the toy they bring.
Trips / Visitors	This half term the children will have access to toys from the Saffron Walden Museum. The children will look at the history of these toys, what they are made from and how they were used. The children will compare toys from a long time ago, to toys that they use now. The children will be able to be hands on with this and have a discussion about how the toys have changed over time. We will also have an opportunity for the children's grown-ups (parents, carers and/or grandparents) to come in with their toys to show children a range of toys from previous generations.
Science	This half term the children will continue to look at seasonal change and plants. We will be looking at how and why animals hibernate during the winter months, as well as understanding how plants grow. The children will create observational drawings of the class tree, showing how it has changed throughout the Autumn into the Winter. The children will start to answer the question of 'are all trees the same?' – understanding that some trees are evergreen and some are deciduous and lose their leaves.
Computing	In Computing, we will be looking at the different parts of a computer and their functions. The children will also learn how to turn on and log in to the computer as well as learning how to type their name and use the mouse to direct the cursor around the screen.
History	The children will be learning about the concept of time, and why historians have divided up time. The children will also look at what has happened from when their parents and grandparents were born to when they were born. The children will also look at how toys have changed, following our visit from the Saffron Walden Museum. We will compare a scalextric style car and a wooden car. The children will then round off the topic by creating their own Katherine Semar Museum showcasing their own toys.
Art	This half term our art topic is printing. The children will experiment pressing leaves into clay in order to create a print. The children will be creating their own clay tile with their choice of leaf on it. The children will then be glazing their tiles to show the colours of autumn. The children will also be creating a repeating pattern using printing ink to create their Christmas cards.
Music	In Music this half term the children will be practicing and performing the songs for their Christmas Production. The children will also be looking at the topic of the Musical Toybox.
PE	In PE this half term the children will be Swimming once a week. As well as this, the children will be doing gymnastics – concentrating on rolls and inversions. The children will also be learning and performing some dances for their Christmas production.
PSHE and citizenship	During PSHE this half term we will be looking at 'Celebrating Differences'. The children will be looking at how they are similar and different to their friends. The children will be looking at qualities, hobbies, likes and dislikes that their friends have – learning whether this is similar or different to their peers.
RE	In RE, the children will be exploring the enquiry: How does a celebration bring a community together? They will do this by learning about Christian and Muslim celebrations.

Reminders

PE with Mr Gilkes will be on Monday, unless there is a parent mail to inform you otherwise, please send your child into school on this day in their PE kit.

Key Vocabulary	
Key Word	Definition
hibernate	to spend the winter in a special kind of sleep
migrate	to move from one place to another. Swallows and some butterflies migrate from the UK for the winter.
temperature	the measured amount of heat
thermometer	a device used to measure temperature
summer solstice	The longest day of the year – 21 st June
Winter solstice	The shortest day of the year – 21 st December

Animals that hibernate in the UK

hedgehog	
dormouse	
bat	
bumblebee	
ladybird	
frog and toad	
grass snake	

Weather

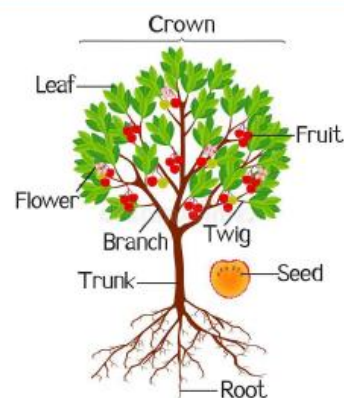
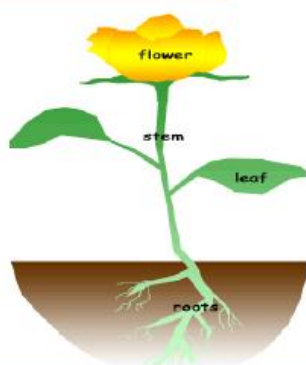
hail	pellets of frozen rain
fog	a thick cloud of tiny water droplets
mist	a thin cloud of tiny water droplets
lightning	a flash of electricity between a cloud and the ground
thunder	a loud rumbling or crashing noise after a flash of lightning

The UK Seasons



Key Vocabulary	
– learn these words and their definitions	
Key Word	Definition
Deciduous	A deciduous plant loses its leaves in autumn and grows new ones in spring.
Evergreen	An evergreen plant has leaves for the whole year.

Parts of flowering plants



Some plants found in our local area

