St Faith's C.E. Primary School



Class: Year R, Oak **Teachers:** Mrs Knott and Mrs Buchanan
Final Year Student Teacher: Miss Lewis
LSAs: Mrs Cannings and Mrs Amey **HTLA:** Mrs McGoff
Curriculum News: Spring 2026 **Topic:** Toys

Literacy

Phonics following Little Wandle: We are minimising any gaps in Phase 2 knowledge and moving on to teach Phase 3 content.

Reading following Little Wandle: Year R have two Guided Reading sessions per week, reading a book that is matched to where we have taught up to. This Guided Reading book then comes home on the Friday as well as two labelled "Stretch and challenge books which match your child's assessed ability.

Writing: Children are becoming skilled at using a balance of Grapheme mats and word banks to support their embedded knowledge when segmenting and recording written words. Increased stamina for sentence writing is now modelled and expected in focus tasks.

Maths

We are covering six concepts, listed below (numbered to show the order that they occur)

Number:

1. Alive in 5
3. Growing 6, 7, 8
5. Building 9 and 10

Shape, Space and Measure:

2. Mass and Capacity
4. Length height and time
6. Explore 3D shapes

Please send in:

From 5th January: An old toy if possible.

Wednesday 14th: a favourite toy (not electronic, to keep for a week)

Parent helpers needed for:

Thursday 29th and Friday 30th Jan from 1pm, sewing puppets.

Thursday 5th February to Milestones Museum.

Anytime to show an old toy (Ideally Thursdays).

Fridays 8.45-9.15 am hearing readers.

Please let us know if you are available by catching us at drop-off or via email to admin.

	Phonics (Phase 3)	Year R book study/We are wondering…	Maths	History and DT
1	ai ee igh oa	What did you do over the Christmas break?	**Step 1** Introduce zero **Step 2** Find 0 to 5 **Step 3** Subitise 0 to 5	Our favourite toys Existing puppets
2	oo oo ar or was you they	Spot's Favourite Toy What are our favourite toys?	**Step 4** Represent 0 to 5 **Step 5** 1 more **Step 6** 1 less **Step 7** Composition	Old and New Design
3	ur ow oi ear my by all	Old Bear Can toys come to life?	**Step 8** Conceptual subitising to 5 **Step 1** Compare mass **Step 2** Find a balance **Step 3** Explore capacity **Step 4** Compare capacity	Questions for visitors (RE Day 23rd)
4	air er words with double letters: dd mm tt bb rr gg pp are sure pure	How can we sort old and new toys?	**Step 1** Find 6, 7 and 8 **Step 2** Represent 6, 7 and 8 **Step 3** 1 more **Step 4** 1 less	Conclude changes in history Make (sewing) x 2
5	longer words	How can we learn about toys from the past? (Trip)	**Step 5** Composition of 6, 7 and 8 **Step 6** Make pairs – odd and even **Step 7** Double to 8 (find a double) **Step 8** Double to 8 (make a double)	Milestones Museum, Creating a Timeline
6	Assessment	How do they make toys? What are we proud of? (Parent's evening)	**Step 1** Explore length **Step 2** Compare length **Step 3** Explore height **Step 4** Compare height	Create a Museum Evaluate
If this level of detail proves helpful I will update you later for Spring 2.				

Understanding of the World

Past and Present: the children will be learning about the toys their parents and grandparents would have played with and will be comparing them with popular toys today.

The Natural World: The children will be exploring the properties of a range of materials used to make toys. They will start to describe, compare and sort materials and discuss their suitability for particular uses. They will also look at seasonal changes and weather for the time of year.

People and Communities: The children will be learning about the similarities and differences between toys enjoyed in different locations around the world, and how toys are influenced by differing environments.

As part of our RE learning about Special Books, the children will learn about the Bible and some of the stories Jesus told, as well as learning about the importance of the Torah to the Jewish faith.

Expressive Arts and Design

Art: The children will make observational drawings of their own and old toys. They will also explore how to use different media to create textured effects.

DT: The children will be designing and making their own felt hand puppets.

Music: We are following a scheme inspired by Old McDonald had a farm and Spring before moving on to a focus on Tempo, Dynamics, Timbre.

Physical Development

We will initially be focusing on ball control, and sending/receiving skills as well as undertaking gymnastics lessons with Marc. After half term we move on to dance and team work, movement skills.