

Rising School; Medium Term Plan Winter 2026

Term: 3	Themes	Celebrations	Books	Makaton	Song of the week	Sound of the week
5th January - 13th February	Winter weather Light and dark Dinosaurs Transport	New Year (Jan 1 st) Chinese New Year (29th Jan - 12th feb) Valentines day (14th Feb)	The very noisy night Whatever next The Gruffalo's child Tyrannosaurus drip Lost and found Duck in the truck	Good morning Stop Help Friend Play Sing	Mulberry bush 5 little men in a flying saucer A rocket that will take us to the moon I saw a dinosaur Dinosaur, dinosaur turn around Rusty car	Wk 1: k Wk 2: l Wk 3: m Wk 4: n Wk 5: o Wk 6: p Wk 7: q
P.E (every wednesday morning in the school hall)				Music (every thursday)		
<p>W1: Stick in the mud</p> <p>W2: Bumpus jumpus dinosaur rumpus</p> <p>W3: Space yoga</p> <p>W4: What's the time Mr Wolf?</p> <p>W5: Simon says</p> <p>W6: Dragon dance (chinese new year)</p>				<p>W1: SING Song basket.</p> <p>W2: PLAY Polish music, alexa, ribbons.</p> <p>W3: MOVE This is the way we..... on a cold and frosty morning.</p> <p>W4: SING Number songs; 5 little men in a flying saucer, dinosaur song.</p> <p>W5: PLAY Music to story 'the gruffalo's child', playing instruments.</p> <p>W6: MOVE Listen to Chinese music, dance with ribbons and scarves. Pretend to be a dragon.</p>		
Country of the Term - Poland				Home learning suggestions		
<p>Learn where Poland is on the world map and globe.</p> <p>Try foods that are from Poland.</p> <p>Make Polish flags.</p> <p>Learn some Polish words, e.g hello, goodbye, yes and no.</p>				<p>W1: Can you spot any signs of winter on a walk?</p> <p>W2: What do you need to wear when it is very cold?</p> <p>W3: Carry out a freezing and melting experiment at home - what happens to the water?</p> <p>W4: Have you got a torch? Go on a treasure hunt with a torch in the dark, what can you find?</p> <p>W5: See how many stars you can see in the night sky.</p> <p>W6: What modes of transport have you been on with your family? What is your favourite?</p>		

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Themes	
Winter weather	Light and dark
<p>We will talk with the children about the season of winter and what it brings. We will encourage the children to think about the temperature, what they have to wear to keep warm and why they need to keep warm. We will talk about the weather itself, in particular the frost, the ice and the snow. Conversations and questions around what happens to the snow and ice when it warms up and also what happens to water when it gets so cold. Encouragement will be given for vocabulary and understanding of the terms 'melting' and 'freezing'. We will provide the children with experiments on melting and freezing both indoors and outdoors so they can observe the changes for themselves. Other focus points will be on cold places in the world such as the arctic and the animals living there.</p>	<p>Winter time is a fantastic time to explore light and dark given that it is usually so dark. We will talk about the different times of the day, focusing on night and day at first and then lead into how dark it can be during the day in winter. We will provide torches and tents for the children to explore this further in play. A shadow puppet theatre will be provided for the children to explore shadows on the walls and how shadows can get bigger and smaller as they push the light closer or move it further away. This will promote mathematical language and understanding. We will talk about Space with the children and how dark it is in space. This will lead to looking at and exploring different planets, the stars, the dark sky etc.</p>
Dinosaurs	Transport
<p>Many children love dinosaurs and are fascinated by them, their size, the concept that they lived a long time ago and that they were big and noisy. We will look at the different types of dinosaurs with the children, giving them names and talking about what they looked like. Opportunities will be provided for the children to explore dinosaur 'swamps' and get a practical view on how they would live. Will talk about herbivores and carnivores so the children understand the difference in these types of diets. Will talk about the size of the dinosaurs and encourage the children to talk about how tall they think the dinosaurs might have been, again developing their mathematical vocabulary and understanding.</p>	<p>Children often have fascinations around different modes of transport, sometimes they are fond of trains or aeroplanes. We will talk about the different types of transport and provide many opportunities for the children to explore how these move/work etc. We will have train tracks, a 'runway', cars and roads, boats etc for the children to engage in play with adding height, tunnels, etc for variation in speed etc. The children can talk to us about what their favourite mode of transport is and whether they have been on one or going on one. Included in this will be discussion around how we get to different countries in the world. Can we walk there? Can we swim? Etc.</p>

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Personal, Social and Emotional Development.	Communication and Language.		Physical Development.
<p>Making Relationships; Seeks out companionship with adults and other children, sharing experiences and play ideas (pg 57) Shows increasing consideration of other people's needs and gradually more impulse control in favourable conditions (pg 57)</p> <p>Sense of Self; Enjoys a sense of belonging through being involved in daily tasks (pg 61) Shows their confidence and self-esteem through being outgoing towards people, taking risks and trying new things or new social situations and being able to express their needs and ask adults for help (pg 61)</p>	<p>Understanding; Beginning to understand 'how' and 'why' questions (pg 70) Responds to instructions with more elements (pg 70)</p> <p>Speaking; Able to use language in recalling past experiences (pg 74) Uses talk to explain what is happening and anticipate what might happen next (pg 74) Questions why things happen and gives explanations (pg 74)</p>		<p>Moving and Handling; Runs with spatial awareness and negotiates space successfully, adjusting speed or direction to avoid obstacles (pg 80) Creates lines and circles pivoting from the shoulder and elbow (pg 80) Manipulates a range of tools and equipment in one hand, tools include paintbrushes, scissors, hairbrushes, toothbrush, scarves or ribbons (pg 80)</p>
Literacy.	Mathematics.	Understanding the World.	Expressive Arts and Design.
<p>Reading; Listens to and joins in with stories and poems, when reading one-to-one and in small groups (pg 88) Joins in with repeated refrains and anticipates key events and phrases in rhymes and stories (pg 88) Begins to be aware of the way stories are structured, and to tell own stories (pg 88)</p>	<p>Shape; Chooses items based on their shape which are appropriate for the child's purpose (pg 100) Responds to both formal and informal language and common shape names (pg 100) Attempts to create arches and enclosures when building, using trial and improvement (pg 100)</p> <p>Measures; In meaningful contexts, finds the longer or shorter, heavier or lighter of two items (pg 101) Recalls a sequence of events in everyday life and stories (pg101)</p>	<p>The world; Comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place they live or the natural world (pg 109) Talks about how things happen and how they work (pg 109) Developing an understanding of changes over time (pg 109)</p> <p>Technology; Knows how to operate simple equipment (pg 112) Plays with a range of materials to learn cause and effect (pg 112)</p>	<p>Not focus for this term.</p>

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