

# THEN AND NOW

Learning about, and describing how areas of life were different in the past compared to now.

## CLL - Communication, Language and Literacy

Children will explore and read texts linked to our topic and use these to develop skills in speaking and listening, reading and writing. They will include work using Non-Fiction texts including letter writing and report writing.

After half term they will focus on fiction adventure stories.

Examples of books children might explore are:

The Lottie project  
The street beneath my feet  
Lost in the toy museum

A Word of the Week is taught to extend the vocabulary children can understand and use, linked to the topic.

## Communication

Communication forms a core part of our curriculum. Communication focuses on understanding others and being understood and includes both verbal and non-verbal means. Children are given opportunities to learn through social interactions, with positive interactions modelled.

## Phonics

Phonics continues to be taught by Phase groups 4 x per week. An update is put on Tapestry to inform you of your child's sound of the week. Please support your child by encouraging them to read at home. Please ensure all books are sent in to school each day.

## Maths

In Primary children will focus on number and place value, to develop their core understanding of numbers. Where possible children are able to learn through practical activities. Later in the term these skills are applied to other areas of maths including money, time, handling data and measures.

Numbots is an online game also used to support developing the fluency of number. This can be accessed from home as well as school

## Topic

We will compare and contrast times in the past.

Each week we explore different topics looking at how they are different now than in the past. We will look at:

Schools  
Clothes  
holidays  
toys  
transport

We will sort old and new and describe features of the past,

At the end of the topic children will design and make a simple toy of their own as part of a DT project.

## Trips/experiences

Braintree Museum - A victorian School experience  
Hollytrees Museum- looking at old toys and comparing to toys today.

## PE

Weekly swimming lessons continues as part of our PE provision until Easter. In school PE children continue to work on team games and coordination skills.

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## Mental Health and Wellbeing Week

Our First week back after the holiday will be a themed week looking at how to take care of ourselves mentally as well as physically

We will explore a range of different activities and talk about how they make us feel. We will focus on finding things that make us feel good

including;

Exercise

Acts of Kindness

Practising using the word 'yet' to develop resilience

Mindfulness activities

Team work activities

## PSHE

PSHE lessons will look at Health and Hygiene for the first half term. Owls and Robins will focus on personal hygiene including hand washing and teeth cleaning Puffin and Kingfisher will look at choices we can make so that we can lead a healthy lifestyle and know why this is important.

The second half term will focus on Relationships. Children will explore appropriate friendships, understanding how to respect each other.

## FFF

Fundamentals For The Future are considered and included as part of every lesson. Key skills are taught in order to develop well rounded children that are able to be successful outside of Thriftwood and in the wider world.

## Science - Electricity

We will explore everyday items that use electricity and sort them into groups. Children will look at:

Items that use electricity and those that use mains and items that use batteries.

Learn about electrical safety rules

Operate items that require batteries.

Create electrical circuits

Investigate static electricity

## LINKS FOR HOME

Bug Club - access online reading books

Purple Mash - access a range of learning tools and activities.

Numbots - complete questions to earn certificates

Teach Your Monster To Read

Please do use Tapestry to send updates of things you are doing at home. We enjoy seeing these and sharing them with each other.

## RE

Buddhist New Year  
Easter Story  
Mothers Day

## Music

Using Charanga, a music program, to look at rhythm and pitch, working each half term on a new song to practise and improve for performance