

## Countess Gytha Primary School Curriculum Information

**Year**

**Merlin Class YR**

**Term**

**Spring 2026**

Dear Parents,

This letter is designed to provide key information about learning this term. Our overarching themes for the term are 'Creatures Big and Small' and 'Adventurous Journeys'. Below, you can find the details outlining the content covered over the different areas of learning for the term ahead.

| SUBJECT                              | CONTENT   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Communication and Language & English | Children's communication and language development is integrated across all areas of learning and continuous provision opportunities. We will continue to follow our phonics scheme, Little Wandle, to extend our phonics knowledge. This term, we will be learning how to form short phrases and sentences with increasing independence towards Easter. We will continue to focus on correct letter formation. We will be looking at non-fiction texts to find out more information related to our themes.  |
| Maths                                | In maths, we will continue to look deeply at numbers to 10, with a focus on finding number bonds and exploring the relationship between these numbers. We will be looking at the composition of numbers and will apply our addition and subtraction skills to solve number problems. When counting, the children will be introduced to 'teen' numbers and will begin counting up to 20. Later in the term, we will be exploring equal and unequal groups and will use mathematical vocabulary to compare these. We will also be learning about different shapes and using these to represent different pattern sequences. |
| Physical Development (PE)            | PE will take place on a Wednesday afternoons. During PE, children will learn a variety of different skills. This term, PE will have a focus on dance and gymnastics. The children will learn how to sequence basic movements to develop their balance, agility and co-ordination.   |
| Understanding the World              | To develop our understanding of the World, we will be exploring the natural world by learning all about animals, habitats and life cycles. Earlier in the term, the children will be travelling back to the land of dinosaurs and learning all about fossils and key people such as Mary Anning.<br>After the half term, the children will be learning about our World, comparing similarities and differences between environments and learning about Space. The children will know who Neil Armstrong, Tim Peake and Helen Sharman are and why they are important figures.  |
| Expressive Arts and Design           | In music, we will be listening to, learning to sing or singing along to various action songs. We will be finding the pulse of music and discussing its tempo.<br>Our art lessons will be focussing on perfecting our drawing skills by learning to draw various different creatures.  |
| PSED                                 | We will be following the SCARF units 'Keeping Myself Safe' and 'Rights and Responsibilities'. We will be thinking about how to make safe decisions and risk assess danger as well as looking after others and caring for our world.   |

## Welcome back, Merlin Class!

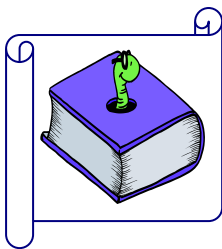
Happy New Year!

We have another busy term ahead with lots of exciting things for all to look forward to. The term begins with our topic about 'Creatures Big and Small' which entails lots of fun learning around animals, beginning with our theme on dinosaurs. The second half of the term focuses on 'Adventurous Journeys'. Within this topic we will be exploring different parts of the World, modes of transport and learning about Space—which is always a class favourite! Don't forget to check Tapestry regularly to see what we get up to.

**Miss Morris & the Merlin Class Team**

# Homework

**Homework** is collected in on a Thursday and reissued on a Friday.



## Reading

- Please try to hear your child read **daily** and allow them time to discuss the book.
- Your child will come home with a phonics sheet each week containing the recent sounds and tricky words taught. Please do look at these often with your child—it really does help to build fluency.
- All children should return their reading books to school on **Thursdays** ready for a new book to be sent home every **Friday**.



## Homework & Spellings

- Homework is reissued on a **Friday**. Homework given reflects recent classroom learning and intends to consolidate children's understanding of recently taught concepts. Children should return completed homework by the following **Thursday** please.
- Children will now be bringing home spellings. Please help your child to read and spell the words. **There will be no spelling test.** We will also be practising these spellings in school throughout the week to support children's confidence at independent spelling. This will support their writing and their ability to segment words to spell. New spelling words will be given every **Friday**, along with the homework.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

#### **PE**

Children now change in school for PE. Our PE slots are Wednesday afternoons. Please ensure all PE kits are named and in school ready for our lessons. Thank you.

#### **Outdoor learning/Welly Walks**

Please ensure your child's wellies and waterproof coats are in school at all times.

#### **Clothing**

Please can all items of clothing be **clearly named**. This is particularly important now the children are changing for PE in school. Thank you.