

What will we be learning:

In Reading, we will continue reading *Alice in Wonderland*, answering comprehension questions and discussing characters, events and language to deepen understanding.

In Science, children will study rocks by exploring their properties, grouping them in different ways and carrying out simple investigations, such as testing hardness, sink or float and reactions with acid. Learning will be checked through quizzes and discussion.

In Geography, children will learn about rivers in the UK and around the world, exploring key features such as the source, mouth, waterfalls and estuaries. They will locate major rivers and compare the River Severn with the River Nile, as well as learning about the water cycle.

In RE, children will explore the Bible and some of its key stories. They will learn about the Ten Commandments, the parable of the Lost Son, and important Christian beliefs including the Crucifixion, Resurrection and the Holy Trinity, with understanding reviewed through a quiz.

In Computing, children will learn how branching databases work by using open and closed questions to organise information. They will design and create their own databases, including digital versions.

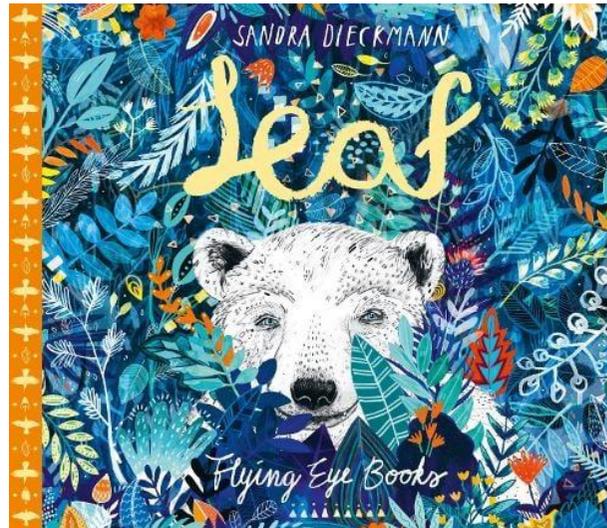
In DT, children will design, build and evaluate their own castles, reflecting on what worked well and how their designs could be improved.

Kestrel Class - Overview

Autumn Term 2 - 2025

Our core story is:
Leaf by Sandra Dieckmann

Please do not read this at home with your child until the end of the half term so your child can enjoy hearing the story and emotion unfold in class.



At home you could:

Read daily at home with your child and talk about what you have read. Please use your reading record to record progress.

Log on to [TIMES TABLE ROCK STARS](https://www.timestablerockstars.com/) and practise multiplication tables.

You could use the following website to create your own branching databases. <https://www.j2e.com/jit5#branch>

Go outside and collect rocks, see if you can sort them based on their characteristics.

Key English skills for your child:

This half term in English, we will be developing our reading and writing skills through both fiction and non-fiction. Our narrative focus will be an outsider narrative, where we will write stories to entertain and engage the reader. As part of our grammar work, we will build on previous learning by using verb inflections correctly (such as we were instead of we was), understanding the difference between plural and possessive -s, and using possessive apostrophes accurately with plural nouns.

We will also work on sentence structure by expanding noun phrases with adjectives, nouns and prepositions, and by using fronted adverbials to add detail. To support cohesion in our writing, we will use nouns and pronouns effectively to avoid repetition and organise our ideas into clear paragraphs. Finally, we will focus on punctuation, particularly using commas correctly after fronted adverbials.

Maths Learning

This half term in maths, we will be developing our addition, subtraction and early multiplication and division skills. We will begin by adding and subtracting 1s, 10s, 100s and 1,000s, including working across boundaries. We will then add and subtract up to two 4-digit numbers, starting without exchanging and moving on to exchanging across 10s, 100s and 1,000s. We will also work with numbers that have different numbers of digits, find complements to 100 and 1,000, estimate answers, and use inverse operations to check our calculations while choosing efficient methods.

Alongside this, we will explore multiplication and division. We will use arrays to represent multiplication, practise sharing and grouping, and learn how to multiply by 1 and 0 as well as divide a number by 1 and by itself.