

Autumn Term 2026

Class: Hawks

Term: Autumn Term- 2026 (September-December)

Explorers & Adventurers

Communication & Language/English

In this term, the Explorers will develop their communication and language skills through a range of engaging activities, including environmental sounds, songs and sensory experiences. They will work on developing their attention and listening skills through approaches such as Attention Autism and Intensive Interaction. Pupils will be supported to develop their speech, language and communication skills through the use of individual communication aids and personalised communication plans. The Explorers will enjoy exploring a variety of stories, songs and nursery rhymes, while developing their early reading and pre-phonics skills. They will also begin to develop their early writing skills through mark-making opportunities and a range of engaging, sensory and fine-motor activities.

The Adventurers will begin to further develop their reading and writing skills through a Talk for Writing approach. Their learning will be based around the stories *Little Cloud* and *I See the Sea*. Pupils will have opportunities to explore and adapt these stories, creating their own versions and developing their use of descriptive language. Across the term, we will follow the Read Write Inc. programme to support pupils in developing their phonics knowledge. They will learn letter sounds and names, practise blending and word building, and develop their understanding of common 'tricky words'.

Myself & My Body/PE/Personal Social & Emotional Development/PSHE

This term, we will focus on developing positive relationships, exploring the importance of friendship, co-operation and working together with friends and family. Through the story *The Colour Monster*, pupils will explore different emotions and develop their ability to recognise, express and understand their feelings. They will also be introduced to a range of self-regulation strategies to help them manage their emotions and respond positively to different situations.

In PE, pupils will develop their gross motor skills, balance and coordination through a range of engaging activities. They will take part in sensory circuits and explore large apparatus in the hall, developing their confidence and independence. Pupils will also look forward to their weekly swimming sessions in our school pool, where they will develop their water confidence, swimming skills and awareness of water safety.

My Creativity/Creative Development

This term in Art, we will use our 'Water' to look at the work of a famous artist 'Claude Monet' and his work using his term, we will be getting creative as we explore the theme of 'Water'. In Art, we will discover the work of the famous artist Claude Monet, exploring his beautiful paintings and experimenting with watercolours. Pupils will have lots of opportunities to explore different colours, patterns and materials, developing their creativity and confidence as young artists. In Music, we will begin to develop our instrumental skills. Pupils will explore a range of instruments, learning to make independent choices about the sounds they create, while also developing their ability to listen and respond to simple instructions and directions. We will also put our creativity and problem-solving skills to the test as we design, make and evaluate our own bridges. We will investigate different materials, explore their properties and think carefully about which materials would work best for our designs. Most importantly, we will have lots of opportunities to get creative, get messy and have fun while learning!

This term is dedicated to getting to know each other, building strong relationships and working together as a team, to ensure each child is stretched to their full potential and has lots of fun along the way. We are excited to begin our learning journey together and create lots of memories in Hawks this year!

Thinking & Problem Solving/Maths

We will help our Explorers develop the early skills they need to become confident thinkers and problem solvers. Through fun, practical activities, they will learn to make simple comparisons, match and sort objects, and begin to recognise patterns and differences. Counting, ordering and sorting will also be naturally incorporated into everyday routines and transitions, helping children to develop these skills in meaningful ways.

In Maths, we will build on the children's understanding of numbers and place value, developing their skills through individual targets and Maths skills needed for life. We will use a range of practical resources and hands-on activities to make learning meaningful, engaging and accessible. Children will also explore different shapes and learn about their properties through practical activities, investigation and problem solving.

Our Class Topic this term is...

Water



My World & My Community/Understanding My World & My Community

In Geography, we will dive into learning about mountains and rivers, linked to our 'Water' topic. In History, we will explore important historical events from the past, such as the RMS Titanic and the history of boats and ships. In RE, we will start to learn about forgiveness and explore some of the key elements underpinning our Brookfields Curriculum; emotions, friendships, belonging and sharing.

Learning Through Play/Preparation for Adulthood:

Opportunities to learn through play will occur continuously, through everyday routines and cross-curricular: choose time, extension activities, continuous provision areas, PE sessions, learning beyond the classroom (soft play, outside play, tyre park, lightroom), as well as exploring our local community through class bus trips. We will go on the Brookfields mini bus to experience outdoor learning opportunities and play linked to our class topic 'Water'.

Life Skills/ Science/Computing

In Science, we will begin to learn about properties and changes of materials, using our senses to explore a range of solids, liquids and gases. The Adventurers will carry out simple experiments to observe changes when working with materials. We will also learn about our amazing Earth and Space! In Computing, we will explore connections, and how this relates to ourselves and computers. The Explorers will learn how to operate simple cause and effect activities and will be able to identify their family and friends.