



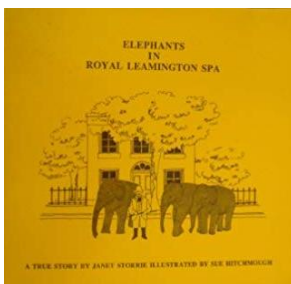
Summer 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Year 1 Pupils,

Wishing you all a lovely Easter break. I hope you're looking forward to an exciting (and hopefully sunny!) new term ahead.

Why did elephants live in Leamington Spa?

To kick off the summer term, we will be learning about the elephants that once lived in Leamington Spa. Here's a little background: the first elephant trainer in England, Samuel Lockhart, was born into a circus family in Leamington in 1850. Sam brought three elephants back from Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) and trained them to perform tricks. His circus was a grand building by the River Leam, where the Loft Theatre stands today.

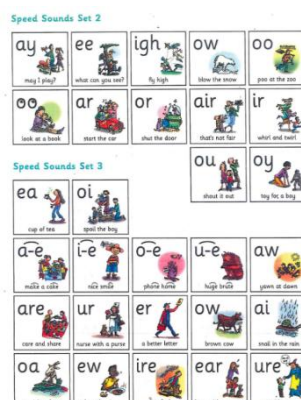


As part of this topic, our History lessons will focus on the life of Samuel Lockhart and the elephants he cared for. We will also learn about Queen Victoria and how she granted Leamington its royal charter. To deepen our understanding of the town's history and how it has changed over time, we will use the book *Elephants in Royal Leamington Spa* by Janet Storrie.

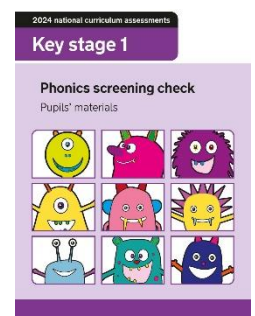
In Geography, we will explore our local area and compare it to Leamington Spa. We will develop our map skills by identifying landmarks in Leamington Spa and representing them using symbols and a key on a map we create ourselves. Additionally, we will take a trip to Leamington Spa for a scavenger hunt to locate these key places. During our visit, we will also explore the Royal Pump Rooms and learn about their historical use.

The Phonics Screening Check will take place during the week commencing **8th June**. Please refer to the previously sent letter for further details.

Here are the spellings and phonics sounds we expect the children to be secure with by the end of the year. Please practice these with your child throughout the year.



Year 1		
the	they	one
a	be	once
do	he	ask
to	me	friend
today	she	school
of	we	put
said	no	push
says	go	pull
are	so	full
were	by	house
was	my	our
is	here	
his	there	
has	where	
I	love	
you	come	
your	some	





Spirituality

At Harbury, spirituality is noticing and reflecting on ourselves, others, the world around us, and God. Inspired by our Bible verse— 'Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth' (1 John 3:18)—we help children grow in love for themselves, for others, for nature, and for God.

Through simple moments of wonder, empathy, and stillness ("wows, ows and nows"), children learn to find meaning, ask big questions and understand their unique place in the world.

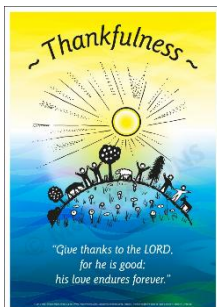
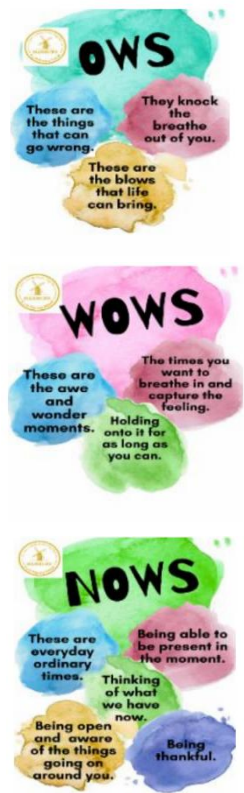
Love in Action



Love in Action

Each term, we have a Love in Action focus. This term, our **Love in Action** focus centres on **Diversity within our community**. We want children to develop an understanding and appreciation of the different cultures, beliefs and backgrounds that make up the world around them, and to recognise the value of respect, inclusion and belonging.

As part of this learning, pupils will be exploring different faiths and traditions through their RE topic, including a visit to a local Gurdwara. This experience will give children the opportunity to learn first-hand about Sikh beliefs, values and community life, helping to deepen their understanding through meaningful, real-world experiences.



School Values

We will also be gaining a deeper understanding of our values **Thankfulness** and **Friendship**. Our reflection area will demonstrate these values and how we incorporate these into our classroom.

PE

PE lessons will take place on Mondays and Thursdays for the whole of the summer term. Please send your child into school in their kit on these days.

The correct kit consists of:

- White/Red t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Black pumps/trainers
- For outside PE: plain trainers and plain jogging bottoms, hoodie/warm top
- *Please ensure hair is tied back and earrings are covered up/taken out*



Swimming

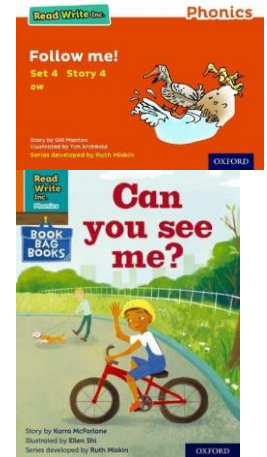
From **Monday 8th June**, our Monday PE session will be replaced by swimming lessons. These sessions will run for **6 weeks** with the last session on **Monday 13th July**. Children will need to bring a swimming costume, towel, and goggles (if desired) in a separate bag. Please ensure the bag is clearly labelled with your child's name. **On swimming days, children should come to school in their PE kit.** Pick-up will be slightly later, at 3:40pm, from the infant playground. It would be very helpful if you could encourage your child to get changed independently and practise folding their clothes.

Homework

A **Maths** or **English/Topic** task, along with phonics practice and spellings, will be set every week. If you need assistance in supporting your child with their homework, please don't hesitate to ask. As usual, homework will be assigned every **Friday** and is due the following **Thursday**. Children who complete and upload their homework onto their portfolio will be awarded 5 Dojo points. **Homework is intended as a guide, and you are not expected to complete every part. Phonics is the main focus. Please select the activities that best suit your child's ability**

Reading Books

Each week your child will bring home the 'Read Write Inc' (RWI) book that they have been reading in school that week along with the corresponding Book Bag Book. We ask that you please look after these and return them the following week; the children should keep their books in the named plastic wallet that has been provided. Please continue to return your reading books every **Thursday**, new books will be sent home every **Friday**. It's really important that books are put into the box on Thursdays, if they are brought in late, they will not be changed until the following week. Many thanks 😊



Class Dojo

Appropriate uses of Dojo messaging include:

- Messages only sent between 8am-4:30pm. (Please note that during teaching hours, staff may not be able to read or respond during these times)
- Brief, positive or helpful messages (e.g. "My child didn't sleep well last night and may be tired today.")
- Minor updates (e.g. "Reminder that Grandma is collecting today.") – although any last-minute changes must be phoned through to the school office.



Class Dojo messaging is not to be used for:

- Lengthy messages or ongoing conversation
- Raising concerns or complaints
- Sending messages outside of school hours
- Any form of negative or inappropriate communication

If you have any concerns or matters that require a more detailed discussion, please email the school at admin3032@welearn365.com to arrange a meeting or a phone call with your child's class teacher. This is the correct and respectful procedure for raising concerns or having in-depth conversations.

Routines/Expectations

- Please ensure your child has a named water bottle with them every day.
- Make sure your child brings their book bag and reading diary daily.
- If your child has any medical needs, please ensure the school is aware and hand any required medication to the school office.
- Send in outdoor shoes or wellies for your child to wear when it is wet outside.
- Clearly label all clothing to avoid items going missing.
- Say your goodbyes on the playground in the morning to help limit the number of people entering the school.

<u>Weekly Overview</u>		
Day	Year 1 team	Details
Monday	Miss Riman, Mrs Hooper & Miss Markham	• PE day (up until 8th June) • Swimming (from 8th June)
Tuesday	Miss Riman, Mrs Hooper & Miss Markham	
Wednesday	Miss Riman, Mrs Hooper & Miss Markham	
Thursday	Miss Riman, Mrs Hunt & Miss Markham	• PE day • Reading books to be returned • Homework due in
Friday	Miss Riman, Mrs Hunt & Miss Markham Mr Hudson every Friday afternoon	• New reading books to be sent home • 9:00am assembly if your child has been chosen for an award • New homework set

Important Dates

Monday 13th April – Pupils return to school

Monday 4th May – Bank Holiday

Thursday 7th May – Trip to the Gurdwara (more details to follow and parent helpers needed please)

Friday 22nd May – PTA sponsored walk

Friday 22nd May – Break up

Monday 1st June – Staff Training Day (school closed to pupils)

Tuesday 2nd June – Pupils return to school

W/C 8th June – Phonics Screening Check

Monday 8th June – Y1 Swimming lessons begin

Tuesday 23rd June – Trip to Leamington Spa (more details to follow and parent helpers needed please)

Wednesday 8th July – Transition Day

Friday 3rd July – Sports Day/picnic lunch/early finish

Friday 10th July – Reports out

Tuesday 14th July – Open classroom

Thursday 16th July – Leavers' Church Service All Saints 9:30am

Friday 17th July – Break up for the summer holidays

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to arrange a conversation in person.

Kind Regards,

Miss Riman