

**Northenden Community  
School  
Curriculum Information for  
Parents**



**Class** Year 1 (Mrs Brooks and Mrs Smith)

**Term** Summer 2 2026 (7 weeks)

**Theme** What is it like to live in Shanghai? (Geography)

**THE BIG IDEA**

Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful and joyful half-term break. This half term, we're embarking on an exciting historical journey in our topic **'How have explorers changed the world?'**

Through this unit, we'll delve into the lives and adventures of significant explorers such as Christopher Columbus and Matthew Henson, understanding their contributions and the impact they've had on the world. We'll also explore how the nature of exploration has evolved over time and discuss the various ways we commemorate these pioneering individuals today.

I'm looking forward to all the exciting adventures and discoveries we'll share together in Summer 2!

**In READING lessons, the children will ...**



- Continue with daily Essential Letters and Sounds phonics lessons and interventions.
- Continue to consolidate phase 2-5 sounds dependent on individual phonics knowledge.
- Participate in a reading carousel that includes reading for pleasure, guided reading and individual reading where we will use decoding and other reading

**In WRITING lessons, the children will ...**



- Begin to use a wider range of vocabulary and sentence structures to make their writing more interesting.
- Join ideas using the conjunctions and, but, and because to extend sentences.
- Focus on using capital letters, full stops, and finger spaces correctly and consistently.

**In MATHEMATICS lessons, the children will**



- Explore place value (within 100)
- Recognise and know the value of coins and notes.
- Use money to measure and compare amounts.
- Tell the time to the hour and half past the hour.
- Read and draw hands on a clock to show these times.



In **Science** we will ...

- learn to identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees.
- Identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.
- Look at seasonal changes linked to summer.



In **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** we will learn...

- How and why do we celebrate special and sacred times?



In **COMPUTING** lessons, the children will

- Develop keyboard and mouse skills by designing a rocket. Creating digital materials lists, using drawing software and recording data.



In **PSHCE** we will ...

- Learn where money comes from and how to use it wisely.
- Understand what the environment is and why it's important to take care of it.
- Explore how our actions affect the world around us.
- Talk about our responsibilities to help others and protect our community.



In **DT** we will ...

- Explore structures and construct our own windmill.
- Learn about the purpose and key components of windmills, including the structure, sails, and how they function.
- Develop the ability to construct stable bases for their windmills, ensuring they can stand upright and support other components.
- Practice using tools and equipment accurately to create parts of the windmill, such as the sails, enhancing their fine motor skills.
- Learn techniques to join different parts of the windmill together securely, focusing on attaching the sails to the main structure.
- Assess their windmill designs against specific criteria, identify areas for improvement, and make necessary adjustments to enhance functionality.



In **MUSIC** we will ...

- Combine all the musical concepts we have learned throughout for an underwater themed performance incorporating instrumental, vocal and body sounds.



**PE lessons will take place on Thursdays and Fridays**  
In our **PE lessons**, the children will ...

- Develop and apply their ball chasing and floor work balance through focused skill development sessions, thematic stories and games.



### **OTHER INFORMATION**

- Phonics homework is set on Fridays and marked the following Friday.
- The phonics screening will take place between June 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.



### **YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME BY ...**

- Reading daily
- Completing phonics homework