



Waddesdon Village Primary School
Pathway to Excellence
Year R Curriculum Newsletter
Summer Term 1 2026
Topic: Amazing Animals

I hope you all had a relaxing Easter break and the children are refreshed and ready for more learning! We have an exciting half term ahead of us and look forward to our visit from TeachRex!
 Thank you so much for your contributions for this event.

Just a few reminders:

Please check your child's book bag as sometimes there are letters in there for you.

Please make sure that all school uniform, PE kits and coats are named. We do our best to make sure that each child goes home with the right items and if they are named it makes the process much quicker.

Weekly schedule

Monday: new reading books are sent home

Thursday: PE and Library
Please note the new day we will visit the library.

Show and Tell Timetable

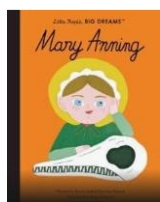
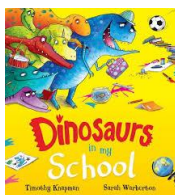
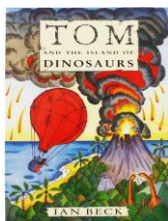
- 17/4/26 – Mentmore
- 24/4/26 – Ascott
- 1/5/26 – Claydon
- 8/5/26 – Hartwell
- 15/5/26 – Mentmore
- 22/5/26 – Ascott

English

We will be building up our confidence writing sentences this half term, by reading a range of genres information, instructions, museum signs and stories.

Our key books this term will be:

- Tom and the island of dinosaurs
- Dinosaurs in my School
- Dinosaur Disaster
- Mary Anning (Little People Big Dreams)
- David Attenborough (Little People Big Dreams)



Mathematics

Pupils will consolidate their counting skills, counting to larger numbers and develop a wider range of counting strategies. They will secure knowledge of number facts through varied practice and explore a range of representations of numbers, including the 10-frame, and see how doubles can be arranged in a 10-frame and compare quantities and numbers. Including sets of objects which have different attributes.

Double 3 is 6



We will also look at shapes and shape patterns.



Communication and Language

Through our topic, we will be learning how to answer how and why questions after listening to stories, learning new vocabulary and thinking about speaking clearly and listening carefully to those we are talking with.

Personal, Social and Emotional

We will be developing our understanding of different emotions and thinking about how our actions affect others.





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Understanding of the world

We will continue to visit the school pond to look at the frog spawn we found last term and watch them grow and change into frogs.

We will be learning about Mary Anning. Mary discovered a fossilized marine reptile (Ichthyosaurus) when fossil hunting with her dad on the beach at age 12!



We will also be using the iPad to learn more about dinosaurs and how the world was different when the dinosaurs lived, as well as about different types of dinosaurs and how we have found out about them.

Physical Development

We will be continuing our Funky Fingers sessions, where we focus on fine motor skills and we are working hard to develop our letter and number formation in daily handwriting sessions.

We will continue to have access to physical development opportunities through our child-initiated learning and through our PE lessons.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be learning how to combine a range of materials for different purposes, such as making dinosaur fossils. We will also be role-playing as dinosaurs and then paleontologists working in a museum, to help us explore our topic.

How you can support your child at home:

Please ensure you are reading the book that is sent home with your child at least 4 times. This is to ensure fluency.

Please also continue to practise recognising and saying the phonics sounds and harder to read and spell words. These were given out at Parents' Evening and can also be found in your child's reading folder. They need to be able to recognise them on their own and also within a word in a book they are reading.

Important Dates:

Tues 5th May – Class Photos
Fri 8th May – TeachREX workshop
Mon 5th May – Bank Holiday
Thurs 12th May – Transition workshop (into KS1 and beyond).
Thurs 14th May – Sports event with Little Oaks

Just a reminder following the **uniform update**, it is important we foster a sense of belonging and pride within our school community. Children need to be in the correct uniform as per the policy that has been sent out. If your child doesn't have the correct uniform, they will be given something from the 'spare uniform box'. I kindly ask that all uniform is labelled so we can return any missing items to the correct child. Thank you for your understanding and support.