

## Year 1/2 Curriculum Highlights 2024-25

At Botley C of E Primary we take great pride in our fantastic curriculum, which enables children to make great progress alongside undergoing many engaging learning experiences. Please enjoy this summary of our curriculum highlights from this academic year.



### **Autumn 1 – Toy Time Travellers**

During our theme, Toy Time Travellers, the children learnt about the history of toys and how they have changed over time. The children explored the differences between toys from the past in comparison to now. In Art, they learnt about different artists who draw toys, like E. H. Shepard, and brought their own toys in to sketch. They used the app Sketchbook to change and alter their sketches of their toys. In DT, the children made their own wooden photo frames by cutting and attaching the wood, which displayed their wonderful computer aided sketches.



### **Autumn 2 – The Enchanted Woodland**

During our theme, The Enchanted Woodland, the children enjoyed an engaging Woodlands Day, making their own leaf men, exploring our school grounds and making fairy houses. The children explored local plants and trees to create their own clay ornaments in Art. The children looked at the work of Georgia O’Keeffe and Vincent Van Gogh, using their styles to inspire their own designs. They printed leaves on clay and explored colour mixing to paint the leaves in secondary colours. The children went on a nature walk in Botley as part of their Geography learning to develop their understanding of human and physical geography through real-life fieldwork.



## Spring 1 – Turrets, Tunnels and Towers

During our theme, Turrets, Tunnels and Towers, the children had an exciting Kings and Queens day where they dressed up in costumes, made crowns, made junk modelling castles and found an incredible golden dragon's egg! In History, the children learnt all about Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II. They explored key facts about each queen and the changes that happened during their reigns. In DT, the children designed and made their own castle scenes using slider and lever mechanisms. They learnt how these mechanisms work and where we might find them in everyday life. In Science, the children investigated the properties of everyday materials. They used key vocabulary to describe, compare and test them against different criteria, deciding which materials were best suited for particular objects and why. In Computing, the children learnt about different types of information technology, how they help us and what their purpose is.



## Spring 2 – Fire Fire!

During our theme, Fire Fire!, the children explored this significant historical event through a range of creative and cross-curricular activities. The children made and then burnt their own cardboard houses on the playground, they had a special Great Fire of London show from Mr Dilly and they had their fantastic trip to Tudor House in Southampton. In History, they investigated the causes and consequences of the fire, using historical enquiry skills to ask thoughtful questions and understand its impact on society. In Art, the children developed their fine motor skills and creativity by exploring weaving techniques to create a piece of art representing the fire. In Computing, they designed, sequenced and debugged their own programs, linking their learning to key moments from the Great Fire to build their logical thinking and digital creativity. In Music, the children used percussion instruments to compose and perform pieces that represented different stages of the fire, developing their teamwork and musical expression.



## Summer 1- Land and Sea

During our theme, Land and Sea, the children explored the natural world, learning about animals, their habitats, and the impact humans have on the environment. In Science, the children learnt about animal classification, habitats, survival and adaptation. In History and Geography, they learnt how coastal life has changed over time and why it's important to care for our environment. In Art, the children created clay animal sculptures inspired by artist Nick Mackman, expressing their ideas through shape and texture.



## Summer 2 – Amazing Asia

During our theme, Amazing Asia, the children compared Botley with a region in India, Chembakolli, exploring similarities and differences in landscapes, weather, and daily life. They used maps, compass directions, and location words to describe places. In Computing, they developed keyboard and mouse skills and learnt how to use technology safely. In DT, they explored Asian flavours by tasting, designing, and making healthy Indian dips. In Music, they sang themed songs and used instruments and digital tools to explore tempo, dynamics, and composition.

