

Heckmondwike Primary Academy

The background image shows a bright, modern primary school classroom. On the left, there are large windows with white frames. In the center, a small white tent-like structure is set up. To the right, there are wooden storage units with many small drawers. A large wooden table is in the foreground, and a smaller table with chairs is in the background. The room is well-lit and has a clean, organized appearance.

Autumn Term Curriculum Updates

Nursery

In the Autumn Term, Nursery will be learning all about where they fit in the world. We will begin to listen to and join in with familiar songs and rhymes, developing our early counting skills up to 3. We will discuss our family and how they are similar or different to other families. We will also begin to develop our creative skills through exploration of different tools as we learn to mark make effectively.



Reception

In the Autumn Term, Reception will be discovering all about ourselves, as we start to develop our early maths skills. We will focus on who lives in our family, how many pets we have, our favourite things and much more. In writing, we will develop our ability to retell stories through our focus text - Owl Babies. We will develop listening skills, as well as talking about things that are important to us.

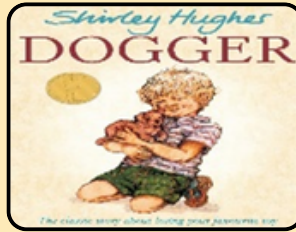


YEAR ONE

ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

English

We will be reading *Dogger* by Shirley Hughes. This classic book tells the story of Dave and his favourite toy - Dogger. Everywhere Dave goes, Dogger goes too. They do everything together so surely nothing could break this special friendship up, or could it...?

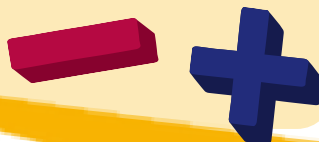


In writing this term, we are going to write two different stories - a story involving a mean character, based on *The Three Little Pigs*, and a warning tale based on *The Gruffalo's Child*. In addition to this, we will explore writing instructions on how to trap a wolf, and also a recount.

Maths

We are going to spend some time deepening their understanding of numbers to 10, then to 20, and by the end of term, to 50. Children will be able to explain how they know that 7 is a greater number than 5, for example.

We will also be spending time learning what addition and subtraction mean. Children will understand that addition is more. They will learn to write number sentences using the + symbol. We will also spend time learning about subtraction. Children will learn that subtraction is reduction. They will write simple number sentences using the - symbol.



Humanities

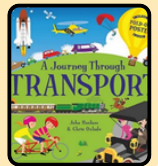
Autumn 1: What makes our school special?

In the first half term, we will be learning what a map is and what the different features of our school are.



Autumn 2: How has transport changed?

In the second half term, we will be learning about how road, sea and air transport has changed over time.



R.E.

Autumn 1: What does belonging mean?

In the first half term, we will be learning about different groups that we belong to and understand how to make people feel welcome.

Autumn 2: What is Christianity?

In the second half term, we will be learning about why the bible, God, prayer and the church are important to people of the Christian faith.

Science

Autumn 2: Everyday materials

In the second half term, children will explore a variety of different everyday materials, understanding the difference between an object, the material it is made from and the properties each has. For example, deciding whether the material is hard or soft, bendy or stretchy. They will think about whether a material is good for a job. For example - is paper a good material for an umbrella?



YEAR ONE

Art & D.T.



Autumn 1: Drawing and Collage

In the first half term, children will be learning about straight, wavy, zigzag and curved lines. We will investigate how to create light and dark tones using different pressure and drawing materials. Children will also explore texture, colour and pattern in collage by tearing, cutting and layering materials.

Autumn 2: Mechanical Components

In the second half term, we will investigate the purpose of a chassis, axle and wheels before designing and creating our own vehicles to carry a toy.

M.F.L



Autumn term:

The focus will be on introduction to Spanish and initial interactions, such as greetings.

Computing



Autumn term: Technology Around Us

In the first term, we will be learning to identify a computer and the different parts it has. We will also use one to add and change text.

P.E.



Autumn term: Outdoor survival, teambuilding and fitness

A range of outdoor activities to build the children's knowledge of shelter, survival and understanding the world. They will be coached by an outdoor professional who will allow them to experience a wide-range of outdoor activities to build their competence and confidence.

P.S.H.E

Autumn 1: 'Being Me in My World'

We will explore what it means to be part of a class, including our rights and responsibilities. We will also work together to set up a class 'Learning Charter'.

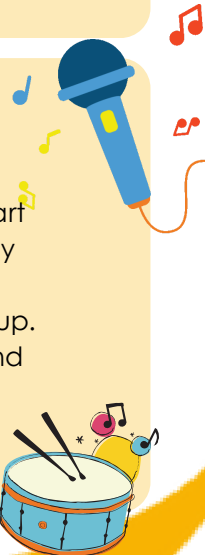
Autumn 2: 'Celebrating Difference'

We will learn about bullying and explore how to deal with it. We will also celebrate what makes us similar and different within our class and explore feelings around making new friends.

Music

Autumn term:

In Music, we will be exploring our voices to create different sounds, start to understand how to stay in tune and to memorise simple songs off by heart to sing together. With un-tuned instruments, we will develop our understanding of how to play with control and follow a beat as a group. There will be a real focus to develop a love for performing to peers and joining in with group activities!

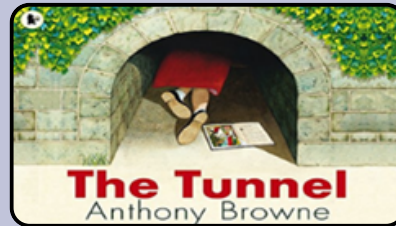


YEAR TWO

ELS Essential Letters and Sounds

English

We will be reading *The Tunnel* by Anthony Browne. This modern classic tells the story of a brother and sister who are complete opposites to one another and spend most of their time arguing. One day, they find a tunnel but what will be on the other end ...?



This term, we will be writing a journey story based on *Meerkat Mail*, followed by a unit on recount writing. Following this, we will explore a warning story linked to our learning in history, and write a discussion text about who we think was to blame for the Great Fire of London.

Maths

In maths this term children will begin by learning the place value of numbers up to 100. Children will be able to partition whole numbers into tens and ones. Then we will be looking at addition and subtraction.

Children will learn how to add three 1-digit numbers (up to 100) on number lines, including how to add across a 10, which can be tricky! Children will learn to do the same thing with subtraction too.

Children will begin to learn what multiplication means by making equal groups and adding the groups together. Children will be introduced to the idea of dividing by taking groups away from a total

Humanities

Autumn 1: What makes London special compared to other places in the UK?

In the first half term, we will be learning about the countries of the UK and their famous landmarks.



Autumn 2: What happened during the Great Fire of London?

In the second half term, we will be learning about the Great Fire of London and why Samuel Pepys is important because of his diary.



R.E.

Autumn 1: What is Judaism?

In the first half term we will be learning about the importance of Abraham and the people of the Jewish faith worship God, both at the synagogue and at home.

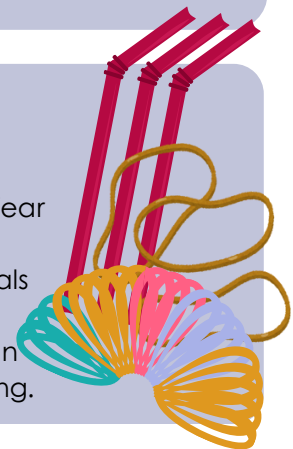
Autumn 2: Why is Advent and the Nativity story so important to Christians?

In the second half term we will be learning about the Nativity story and the importance of Bethlehem and the Church of Nativity to people of the Christian faith.

Science

Autumn Term: Uses of everyday materials

Across the term, children will build on their learning from Year 1, using their knowledge of different materials and their properties to understand the suitability of different materials for a certain purpose, for example, looking at the best material for a straw, as well as exploring how materials can be changed by twisting, bending, squashing and stretching.



YEAR TWO

Art & D.T.



Autumn 1: Collage

In the first half term, children will learn how to crumple, fold, overlap and overlay materials to create different collage effects. They will also learn about and create a 3D photocollage, inspired by David Hockney.

Autumn 2: Construction and Drawing

In the second half term children will learn about nets and the architect, Sir Christopher Wren. We will then design and construct a house in the style of homes from the Great Fire of London. In Art, we will also learn about the different effects created by charcoal, graphite and ink.



M.F.L



Autumn term:

The focus will be on introduction to Spanish and initial interactions, such as greetings.

Computing

Autumn term: Information Technology Around Us

In the first term, we will learn about the different ways technology helps us and know how and why we make choices about this.



P.E.



Autumn term: Fitness and Team Building

We will be exploring how our bodies feel when we exercise, focusing on our heartbeat, breathing and muscles. We will also reflect on how exercise impacts on our concentration and well-being. In Team Building, we will work on clear communication, instructions and rules to make our games run smoothly.

P.S.H.E.

Autumn 1: 'Being Me in My World'

We will explore our hopes and fears for the year ahead and discuss how everyone plays a part in creating a safe and fair learning environment. We will also explore how to recognise our feelings and value the contributions of others.

Autumn 2: 'Celebrating Difference'

Children will learn about bullying and explore how to stand up for themselves and others. We will also discuss stereotypes about gender, celebrate difference within our class and discuss how to remain friends.



Music

Autumn term:

In the first term, we will be developing our musical listening and singing skills, alongside being able to sing in a round. We will be encouraged to perform to peers, and be willing to share our ideas. With un-tuned instruments, we will develop our understanding of how to play with control and follow a beat as a group.

There will be a real focus to develop a love for performing to peers and joining in with group activities!



YEAR THREE

English

We will be reading *This Morning I Met a Whale* by Michael Morpurgo. When young Michael spots a whale on the shores of the River Thames, he cannot believe his eyes. However, the whale is real and it has an important message for Michael and the rest of the world. Will Michael be able to help though when no-one seems to believe his story?



The first story we are writing is based on Bethan Woolvin's book, *Little Red*, a well known story with a different twist! After that, we will write an explanation text linked to our science learning in the REC, before exploring a Polish folk tale from Krakow, featuring a dragon!

Maths

100

We will begin the term by looking at the value of numbers all the way to 1000. Children will learn how to partition numbers into hundreds, tens and ones. After this we are going to look at addition and subtraction. Children will learn how to add using a more formal method, where they will add the ones first, then the tens, then the hundreds to find the total.

Children will then look at subtraction in a similar way, by reducing the ones, tens and hundreds.

We will also be looking at multiplication and division. Children will learn how to multiply using the short written method. For division, pupils will begin to learn the 'bus stop' method. Children will also start to learn times tables facts, and be able to quickly say the answer to questions such as 7×3 .



Humanities

Autumn : How did the people of the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age live?

In history we will learn about the different homes and technologies people of each era had and how they changed over time. We will also learn when farming began and how this was important for food, clothing and to trade. The construction of Stonehenge will also be learned about and we will look at different ideas about what historians think it was used for.



R.E.

Autumn 1: What is Humanism?

In the first half term, we will be learning what the word atheist means and how people who are Humanists celebrate their beliefs.

Autumn 2: What are some ways that Judaism and Christianity are linked?

In the second half term, we will be learning about how Christianity originated from Judaism. Also how psalms, prayers and faith leaders are important in aiding worship.

Science

Autumn 1: Rocks

Children will learn about the properties of different types of rocks, as well as understanding how fossils are formed. Children will also explore the effects of weathering and how soil is formed.

Autumn 2: Animals including humans

Children will explore the role of the skeleton, including its use for protection and movement, as well as the role of muscles.



YEAR THREE

Art & Design

Autumn 1: Drawing

In Art, children will explore line and tone using contours, crosshatching and a range of techniques. They will also learn why graded pencils are a useful drawing medium and create a large-scale Stone Age inspired drawing.

Autumn 2: Construction

In D.T., children will design and construct a free-standing replica of an Iron Age house using hidden joins and a buttress.

Computing



Autumn term: Connecting Computers

In the first term, we will learn how different devices are connected to a network and how this can be used to share information.

P.E.

Autumn term: Fitness and Team Building

We will be exploring how our bodies feel when we exercise, focusing on our heartbeat, breathing and muscles. We will also reflect on how exercise impacts on our concentration and well-being. In Team Building, we will work on clear communication, instructions and rules to make our games run smoothly. These are linked to a range of sports.



M.F.L



Autumn term:

The focus will be on introduction to Spanish and initial interactions, such as greetings and animals.

Music



Autumn term:

In the first term, we will be building on our vocal skills to be able to sing with expression and accuracy so that an audience can hear us. We will be building the skills to start to perform with confidence and have an understanding of how to reflect on and the steps to improve our own skills. Using tuned and un-tuned instruments that we can name, we will be learning to play familiar melodies with correct technique and some accuracy in musical elements including pitch, dynamics and tempo.

P.S.H.E



Autumn 1: 'Being Me in My World'

We will set personal goals for the year ahead and discuss how to remain positive when facing challenges. We will also explore responsible choices and investigate seeing things from others' perspectives.

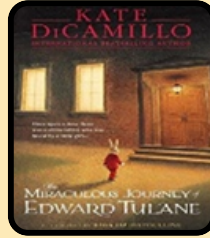
Autumn 2: 'Celebrating Difference'

We will discuss what to do if witnessing bullying and recognise how words can be hurtful to others. We will also explore families and their differences and look at how to manage common family conflicts.

YEAR FOUR

English

We will be reading *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate Di Camillo. This award-winning book is a magical story that tells us about the adventures of a lost toy rabbit. On his journey, he encounters many different characters, some kind and some cruel, but will he finally learn what it is to truly love others...?



This term, our writing is closely linked to our reading text. We will create our own warning stories, based on a warning given to Edward Tulane, before making our own choices and writing about who we think Edward Tulane should ultimately live with. Following this, we will write a suspenseful adventure story, and a newspaper recount about the event.

Maths

At the start of term in Y4, children will begin by looking at the value of digits all the way to 10,000. They will be able to partition a number into thousands, hundreds, tens and ones, in many different ways.

For addition, children will begin to learn how to add using the most efficient method. For subtraction, children will learn how to subtract using the same method. This will take time as it is an important life skill they will use for ever! We will be using the method taught in Y3 to multiply 3-digit numbers by a number up to 9. When dividing, pupils will divide numbers up to 1000, with no remainders.

Humanities

Autumn : Did the Vikings deserve their vicious reputation?

In history we will learn that both the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings settled in Britain. We will also learn that Sutton Hoo is an important historical site that tells us all about how the Anglo-Saxons lived and that the Lindisfarne raid is the point of time when Viking Britain began.



R.E.

Autumn 1: What is Buddhism?

In the first half term, we will be learning the origins of Buddhism. Also how people of the Buddhist faith worship and demonstrate Puja (offerings to Buddha).

Autumn 2: What can we learn from religions about what is right and wrong?

In the second half term, we will be learning about similarities in beliefs of people of the Christian, Jewish, Buddhist and Hindu faiths and what guides them in making decisions in life.



Science

Autumn Term: Animals including humans.

Children will be learning about the names and functions of different teeth in a range of animals, including humans, before exploring the role of the different parts of the digestive system in humans, simulating this in class with a model of the digestive system. They will then be learning about food chains, building on their knowledge from Year 2.



YEAR FOUR

Art & Design



Autumn 1: Sculpture

In Art, we will take inspiration from George Segal to design and create a sculpture of a Viking or Anglo-Saxon God. These will be made from armatures and Mod Roc.

Autumn 2: Construction

In D.T., we will learn about shell structures and how Computer Aided Design (CAD) can be used to design a product. We will also learn how to strengthen a structure using corrugating, laminating and ribbing.



Computing

Autumn term: The Internet

In the first term, we will learn about how networked devices make up the internet and how these can be shared on the World Wide Web.



P.E.

Autumn term: Fitness and Team Building

We will be exploring how our bodies feel when we exercise, focusing on our heartbeat, breathing and muscles. We will also reflect on how exercise impacts on our concentration and well-being. In Team Building, we will work on clear communication, instructions and rules to make our games run smoothly. These are linked to a range of sports.



M.F.L



Autumn term:

The focus will be on introduction to Spanish and initial interactions, such as greetings and fruits..

Music



Autumn term:

Building on our singing knowledge and abilities, we will start to sing in parts and start to create harmony as a group. We will apply our knowledge of musical elements to adapt our performance to have a greater impact on audience, and give constructive, focused feedback to peers, based on expected performance features.

P.S.H.E.

Autumn 1: 'Being Me in My World'

We will discuss being part of a class team and how to be an effective school citizen. We will also learn about democracy through the School Council and explore group decision making.

Autumn 2: 'Celebrating Difference'

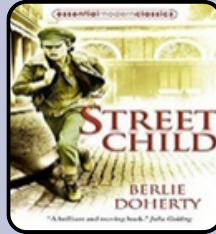
We will discuss first impressions and how we sometimes judge others by their appearance. We also explore problem-solving techniques when challenging bullying and unfair assumptions about others.



YEAR FIVE

English

We will be reading *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty. Set in Victorian London and loosely based on a true story, this is the tale of Jim - an orphan, who has to overcome tragedy and a host of cruel characters in a bid to find happiness and freedom. But will he ever manage to be truly free...?



Linked to our learning in history, this term we explore a portal story, where the character finds herself in Ancient Rome, and use this to inspire our own. We discuss events that led to Boudicca's revolt, and write our own discussions based on this. After this, our topic is science fiction: we will write an action-packed adventure and find out how to prepare for an alien invasion!

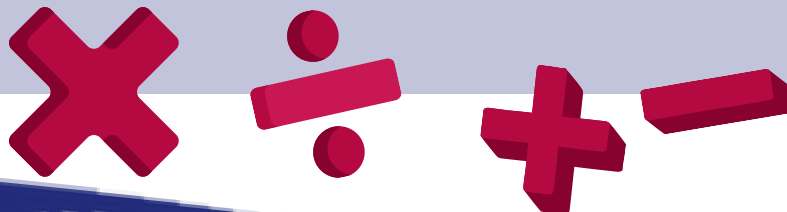
Maths

Children will begin to understand the value of numbers up to 1,000,000. They will also begin to learn Roman numerals up to 1000.

When adding and subtracting, children will continue to develop their skills of using the most efficient method, with multiple regrouping and exchanges, all the way up to 1,000,00.

We will begin to learn what square numbers and cubed numbers are, prime numbers and factors. Children will learn how to use long multiplication to multiply numbers by more than 10.

We will also begin to look at remainders when we divide, also using the formal method.



Humanities

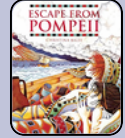
Autumn 1 : Who were the Romans and what was their impact on Britain?

What do the grids on a map tell us about a location?

In history we will learn about how Rome changed from a city state to a republic and then an Empire. We will also learn that this led to Britain being invaded and positive changes happening because of this. In geography we will learn the capital cities of Europe and understand latitude, longitude, meridians and time zones.

Autumn 2: How have natural disasters shaped our world?

In geography we will learn about tectonic plates and how these link to how mountains, earthquakes and volcanoes are formed. We will also learn about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and how natural disasters can have positive and negative consequences.



R.E.

Autumn : What is Sikhism?

This term we will be learning about the origins of Sikhism and why Guru Nanak is important. We will also learn about how people of the Sikh faith worship and what langar (sharing the community kitchen) and the 5Ks are.

Science

Autumn 1: Living things and their habitats

Children will be comparing different life cycles in animals, as well as exploring metamorphosis, before understanding the different ways plants can reproduce, investigating this in groups.

Autumn 2: Animals including humans

Children will be learning about the changes in humans from birth to old age before exploring different gestation periods of mammals.

YEAR FIVE

Art & Design



Autumn 2: Printing

In Art, we will be learning how to print using ink. We will also be learning how to combine three different colours in our printing and why we need to remove parts of the poly-block when we do this. We will be inspired by the work of Exekius, a Greek potter and painter, to show the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and we will complete our designs on textile using our sewing skills, including a French knot.

Computing

Autumn term: Systems and Searching

In the first term, we will learn about search engines and how they rank search results. We will also learn about why the order is useful when searching.



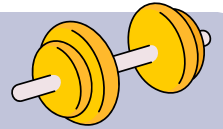
M.F.L



Autumn term:

The focus will be on introduction to Spanish and initial interactions, such as greetings and seasons.

P.E.



Autumn term: Fitness and Team Building

We will be exploring how our bodies feel when we exercise, focusing on our heartbeat, breathing and muscles. We will also reflect on how exercise impacts on our concentration and well-being. In Team Building, we will work on clear communication, instructions and rules to make our games run smoothly. These are linked to a range of sports.

Music



Autumn 1:

While developing singing and performing skills to showcase songs we have learnt in a musical way, a focus will also be on breathing, phrasing and safe techniques to look after our vocal health. We will be building further confidence to be able to convey emotion, adapt throughout and add own interpretations during a performance.

Autumn 2:

Building on our understanding of musical elements, we will be applying this to be able to play instruments musically, following written notation with added musical symbols. We'll share this learning with peers and give constructive feedback, alongside improvising on these instruments and composing own pieces of music with a range of instruments.



P.S.H.E

Autumn 1: 'Being Me in My World'

We will deepen our understanding of citizenship and democracy, exploring rights and responsibilities and how behaviour can affect groups.

Autumn 2: 'Celebrating Difference'

We will explore how cultural differences cause conflict and discuss how to enjoy and respect other cultures. We will also learn about racism and the impact of rumours and name-calling on others. Finally, we explore material wealth and its impact on happiness.

YEAR SIX

English

We will be reading *Black Powder* by Ally Sherrick. This award-winning book is a rip-roaring, action-packed, historical adventure set in England in 1605. 12-year-old Tom, in a bid to save his father, falls into the company of a mysterious stranger who promises to help him but is this helpful stranger all he seems...?



This term, our writing is all about building suspense and tension, as well as exploring how to write a prequel to a story. The Tibicena is a dangerous beast, but does it deserve to be spared from eradication?

Maths

In the first few weeks, children will look at the value of numbers all the way to 10,000,000. They will learn how to round numbers and will be look at negative numbers in situations such as temperatures.

Children continue to use the most efficient method to add and subtract numbers up to 10,000,000.

When multiplying, children will learn how to multiply numbers with thousands by 2-digit numbers.

Pupils will learn how to divide with remainders and will learn what a remainder means. Children will be able to change a remainder into a fraction or a decimal.



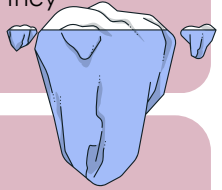
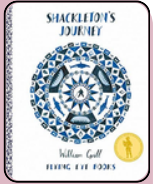
Humanities

Autumn 1: History

In History we will learn about how Lady Jane Grey became the nine-day queen and how the events surrounding this were linked to religion.

Autumn: Geography

In Geography we will be learning about Antarctica and the fact it is a desert biome. We will learn about the science stations that are there and how they can have positive and negative impacts on the location.



R.E.

Autumn : Is it better to express your beliefs in art and architecture or charity and generosity?

This term we will be learning about symbolism in religious buildings are artwork and how this is used to show the beliefs of different religions. We will also learn that all religions and non-religious beliefs value charity and generosity and show these in similar ways.

Science

Autumn Term: Animals including humans

Children will be exploring the human circulatory system, understanding the role of the blood vessels, components of the blood and how they transport nutrients, oxygen and waste around the body, even making a model of blood themselves. Children will then look to explore the effects of exercise, diet and drugs on the body.



YEAR SIX

Art & Design



Autumn 2: Painting

Children will be inspired by the work of George Edward Marston, a painter who recorded the landscapes of Antarctica during the journey of The Endurance. Children will plan a composition using underdrawing and use a range of brushes to create their own watercolour painting, including a watercolour wash, a focal point and shadows.

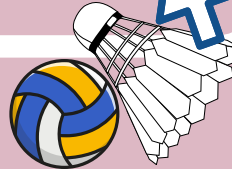
Computing

Autumn term: Communication and Collaboration

In the first term, we will be learning about how different types of data is transferred across the internet.



P.E.



Autumn term: Fitness and Team Building

We will be exploring how our bodies feel when we exercise, focusing on our heartbeat, breathing and muscles. We will also reflect on how exercise impacts on our concentration and well-being. In Team Building, we will work on clear communication, instructions and rules to make our games run smoothly. These are linked to a range of sports.

M.F.L



Autumn term:

The focus will be on introduction to Spanish culture and language and initial interactions, such as greetings and family.

Music

Autumn 1:

We will be using our substantive knowledge of vocal accuracy, embedding performance skills and vocal health, to perform a range of songs with harmony. We will be able to differentiate certain notes orally, and confidently pick up songs quickly.

Autumn 2:

We will be collaborating with our peers to perform pieces of music together on different instruments, focusing on elements to make playing more accurate and musical. Using technology, we will be creating music with a range of instruments that are appropriate for the genre, and selecting musical elements to create mood.

P.S.H.E.

Autumn 1: 'Being Me in My World'

We will learn about global citizenship and children's universal rights. We will also explore anti-social behaviour, group dynamics and being an effective role model.

Autumn 2: 'Celebrating Difference'

Children will discuss difference as both a cause of conflict and celebration. We will learn about disability and explore children's perceptions of what it means to be 'normal'. We will also further develop children's understanding of bullying and power struggles.



Thrive Updates

The Thrive Approach team have been busy updating Thrive Online to enhance the provision for staff supporting children in our school. Staff can now select even more targeted strategies to support social and emotional learning and link these strategies to fun and exciting activity cards for children and staff to take part in together.

The Thrive Approach is currently used in over 2,800 settings across the country and overseas with over 75,000 people trained in the approach to support children mental wellbeing and social and emotional development.



Thrive in our School

Thrive sessions at Heckmondwike Academy are designed to support children who may struggle with managing strong emotions or have difficulty settling into the classroom. These sessions provide a safe and nurturing environment where children can express their worries and explore their feelings through various activities, such as role-playing, art, sensory play, and mindfulness exercises. Through engaging in interactive and creative tasks, children build relationships with a trusted adult and develop essential friendship skills through cooperative games and problem-solving activities.



In addition to emotional support, Thrive sessions equip children with tools to articulate their feelings and develop resilience. By focusing on understanding neuroscience, these sessions help children recognise and name their emotions. They also offer strategies for teachers, such as using language, routines, visuals, and calm spaces to foster a supportive learning environment. Our Thrive practitioner, Miss Crompton, acts as a co-regulator, guiding children through reflective exercises, calming activities, and games to build social-emotional skills, either one-on-one or in groups.