



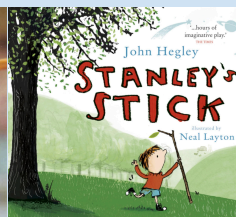
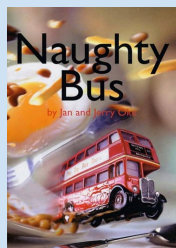
Southhill Primary

# Term Talk

Autumn Term 2026

## Bright Futures Curriculum News for Year 1

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| <b>Welcome to the Autumn Term</b> | Welcome to the first term of Year 1! We are looking forward to having a wonderful term with some exciting learning themes planned throughout, linked to our <b>Bright Futures Curriculum</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Reading</b>                    | The children will be participating in reading groups 3 times a week, focusing on decoding one day, prosody the next and finally, comprehension. As well as this, we read to the children daily and also have volunteer readers coming in to listen to the children read.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Writing</b>                    | <p>In our writing this year we are adopting book-based writing units that are based on a wide range of high quality and significant children's literature chosen to engage, challenge and support children to be critical readers and confident and informed writers. All National Curriculum requirements of grammar, spelling, vocabulary, literary language and composition are embedded leading towards a variety of purposeful and exciting shorter, longer and extended writing outcomes where the audience and purpose is clear.</p> <p>Our books this term are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Naughty Bus</i></li> <li>• <i>Stanley's Stick</i></li> <li>• <i>I Want My Hat Back</i></li> <li>• <i>Leo and the Octopus</i></li> </ul> |
| <b>Maths</b>                      | <p>We follow the White Rose Education scheme of learning that inspires maths to really focus on the 'WHY?' rather than the 'HOW?' in maths. We support our learners more thoroughly using the Concrete Pictorial Abstract approaches, but also extend through reasoning and problem-solving questions and Maths Journaling that flow throughout the whole scheme. This term, we are covering units on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place Value (within 10)</li> <li>• Addition and Subtraction (within 10)</li> <li>• Shape</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Science</b>                    | <p><b>Animals and Humans</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can we group animals?</li> <li>• What makes us human?</li> </ul> <p>In this unit, children will learn about different common animals and be able to discuss their</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

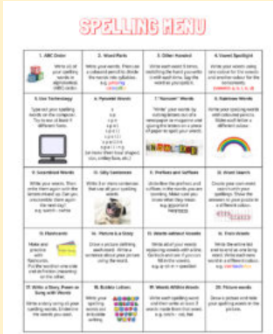


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|                  | <p>features using specific language, such as feathers, beak, scales, fins etc. They will begin to identify similarities and differences between different animals. The children will also look at the diets of different animals and compare these. Finally, the children will focus on humans, identifying body parts and linking these to senses, as well as discussing the similarities and differences between humans.</p> <p><b>Seasonal Changes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Observe and record seasonal changes</li> </ul> <p>During this unit of work, the children will learn about the four seasons. The unit comprises nine lessons in total, to be taught at three points throughout the year: the October unit (3 lessons focusing on autumn), the December unit (3 lessons focusing on winter), and three lessons for the May unit (focus on spring/summer).</p>                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Computing</b> | <p>This term, the children will be learning about <b>Technology around us</b> and <b>Digital painting</b>. As well as this, a large focus of the term is familiarising the children with technology - teaching them to logon, as well as getting them used to navigating the technology we will be using!</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Geography</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The World and My School - Where in the World do I live?</li> </ul> <p>In this unit, children will begin learning about space and scale by looking at their classroom location using a planned perspective of the school. The children will then look at the location of their school on their street, including some of the other key human and physical features of the area. The children will explore the location of their town within the United Kingdom and learn about the UK's four countries and capital cities. They will learn about the seasons in the United Kingdom and how they change. The children will then look at where the United Kingdom is in the world, learn the names of the continents and oceans and look at weather and climate across the globe.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>History</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Castles - Why were castles built and what were they like to live in?</li> </ul> <p>In this unit, the children will learn what castles are, why they were built and who lived and worked in them. They explore castles as places of protection, power and homes in the past - learning about key features, like walls, towers, moats, drawbridges, battlements and keeps. The children will look at the roles of lords, ladies, knights, guards, servants, cooks and blacksmiths, and discover what daily life was really like - including the cold, dark conditions, feasts, entertainment and heavy armour. They will also study Sandsfoot Castle as a local example, learning that it was built by Henry VII about 500 years ago to protect Weymouth from enemy ships, and understanding how it has changed from a functioning castle to a ruin. The unit ends by comparing castles in the past with homes today, using historical vocabulary like 'past', 'present', 'then' and 'now'.</p> |
| <b>Art</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sculpture with clay- Why do sculptors sculpt?</li> </ul> <p>In this sculpture unit using clay, the children will learn what sculpture is and its purpose. They will develop some skills with clay that will start their primary school journey of becoming proficient with clay as a medium. They will know about the work of some artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines and making links to their own work.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>PSHE</b>      | <p>In PSHE, this term, the children will be answering the questions: <b>What is the same and different about us?</b> and <b>Who is special to us?</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Music</b>     | <p>We use and adapt a music scheme called <b>Charanga</b>. The scheme offers a library of songs, topics to explore, the chance to create music and engaging on-screen resources. In Autumn Term, the children will be learning about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My Musical Heartbeat</li> <li>Dance, Sing and Play</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

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| RE         | <p>For RE, we use a scheme called Oak Academy and this term, the children will be looking at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New life: how is a new child welcomed?</li> <li>• Jesus - Why is he so important to Christians?</li> </ul> |
| PE         | <p><b>Our Pe day is Wednesday.</b> In Autumn term, the children will be covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fundamentals</li> <li>• Dance and Gymnastics</li> </ul>                                                                |
| Enrichment | Trip to Lulworth Castle on the 30th September 2026! - <b>To be confirmed...</b>                                                                                                                                                                       |

| Other News            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| Behaviour and rewards | <p>We also use Class Dojo in school to reward positive behaviour. The children are able to track their behaviour, as well as contribute to a whole class reward target. Our three key words to help the children remember our behaviour expectations at Southill Primary are:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ready. Respectful. Safe.</b></p> <p>All classes have a 'class charter' which clearly explains the school expectations for behaviour and is in line with the school behaviour policy. We expect all children to demonstrate excellent behaviour to enable them to reach their full potential and set good examples to other children in school. In an instance of behaviour not meeting the required standard, the class teacher will inform you and will discuss this with you. This could be via the phone or through Class Dojo. If the behaviour concerns continue you will be invited into school to discuss this further. Please read the school behaviour policy which gives clear information regarding the expectations of behaviour within the school.</p> |

| Helping At Home |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| Reading         | <p>By far the most important thing that a child can do at home is read. Children are expected to read each day at home (minimum 5 times a week) and this should be recorded in their reading records. Children are never too old to be heard reading or to be questioned on a book that they are reading. The discussion that can come from reading with your child and questioning them can encourage a real love for reading that really helps them in all areas of the curriculum.</p>                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Numbots         | <p> <a href="https://numbots.com/">https://numbots.com/</a></p> <p>As a school, we provide access to Numbots, which your child can access from home. NumBots is all about every child achieving the "triple win" of understanding, recall and fluency in mental addition and subtraction, so that they move from counting to calculating. The more that a child is exposed to these elements of maths early in their maths journey the better their understanding will be later on. Regular, short bursts of time on this platform work best to help develop their fluency.</p> |
| Uniform         | <p>Please name all items of school uniform and PE kit. You will appreciate this later in the year if an item ever goes missing!</p> <p>Please read and support the uniform guidelines on the website which provides clear information regarding the expectations of uniform.<br/> <a href="https://www.southill.dorset.sch.uk/Parents/School-Uniform/">https://www.southill.dorset.sch.uk/Parents/School-Uniform/</a></p> <p>Haircuts and colours must comply with the school guidelines. Long hair must be tied back (this is for safety and hygiene reasons!)</p> <p></p>   |

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|                                            | <p>Please send your child to school with a water bottle and a break time snack that is a fruit or vegetable.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| PE                                         | <p><b>Year 1's PE day is Wednesday.</b> On PE days, children should come into school in their PE kit. Please make sure that school PE kit guidelines are followed for PE kit. It is also important to note that children are not allowed to take part in PE whilst wearing earrings (for health and safety reasons). If they are unable to take them out themselves, children must not wear earrings to school on the days that they have PE. Taping over earrings is no longer permitted (in relation to health and safety guidelines issued to schools).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Additional opportunities to help from home | <p>As a school, we believe that the most important thing that you can do from home is to support the children in their reading and developing maths fluency (through Numbots in KS1 and times tables in KS2). The school provides reading resources (through reading books linked to our scheme in KS1 and reading books that have been chosen after completing a Star Reader assessment in KS2) and maths licences to Numbots and Times Table Rockstars to complete as homework throughout the year.</p> <p>If you do wish for additional homework opportunities for your child, below are a few ideas and links to resources that can help. Should you choose to use these resources they do not need to be brought into school (as teachers assess children based on in class work and activities) but they do link in with the school Bright Futures Curriculum.</p> <p><b>Maths</b></p> <div></div> <p>The White Rose Maths Practice Journals provide a record of progress for each child and are a great way to rehearse learning at home that links in with our maths curriculum. Each homework activity is matched to the teaching and learning taking place in White Rose Maths lessons each week. It will take 20-30 minutes to complete. The homework books use the same layouts, colours and language used in the White Rose Maths Workbooks (that we use in school)- making them familiar and easy to access at home. You'll also find lots of great vocabulary tasks to support children's language in the maths classroom and beyond. As well as real world maths activities using items from around the home.</p> <p>The book for your child's year group can be purchased from <a href="#">Amazon</a>.</p> <p><b>Spelling</b></p> <p>Each week, children will participate in 3 spelling practice sessions. These either link with our phonics scheme (in KS1) or with our book-based writing curriculum (in KS2). If you wish to practice spellings further at home, age-appropriate spelling resources that you could use at home can be found under 'Learning Resources' on the school website.</p> <div></div> |