



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new year and a new spring term! We hope you enjoyed your festive break and are ready for another busy term. We are excited to get back into all of our learning and this curriculum newsletter will share all of our upcoming learning. We hope that this will give you an insight into your child's learning and enable you to have conversations with your child about what is happening in school. If you require further details about what skills and knowledge will be taught in each subject, please have a look at the curriculum page on our school website. Follow us on X (@HighwoodSchool) where we will be sharing all of the excellent learning that happens at Highwood. If you have any questions about our curriculum, or any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks,

Miss Marriott, Mrs Coggon and Miss Hibberd

### Reminders

**PE lessons are on a:**  
**Beech 2 – Tuesday and Wednesday**  
**Birch 2 – Monday and Wednesday**



Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE Kit. Also, long hair must be tied back, and no earrings should be worn on PE day.



**Library – Thursday** (for both classes)

**Reading book hand in** on a Thursday

**Read Write Inc books** should be brought in **every day**. These will be changed within their RWI groups.

### Home Learning



**Home Learning book hand in** – Tuesday – (returned on Thursday).

Please see home learning grid for further details.

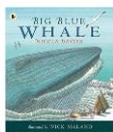
### Core Home Learning

- Reading daily.
- Practise letter and number formation.

### English



This half term the children will be reading these key texts:



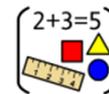
Rapunzel by Bethan Woollvin

Big Blue Whale by Nicola Davies

**They will be producing the following pieces of written work linked to the key texts:**

- Their own version of a traditional tale
- A non-fiction book about animals

### Maths



- Written addition method
- Written subtraction method
- Problem solving with addition and subtraction in a range of contexts
- Money – Making Combinations and Finding Change
- Comparison (difference, more, less, fewer)
- Statistics – Totalling and Comparing Amounts in Block Graphs, Pictograms, Tables and Tally Charts

### Science: Living things and their habitats

The children will be taught to the following key knowledge and skills.



#### How do different living things survive in their habitats?

- Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive
- Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other
- Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including micro-habitats
- Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food

## Geography – Continents Oceans and Seas



The children will be taught key knowledge and skills to help them answer our Big Question:

### Where would you rather live: Europe or Australia?

- Name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans.
- Name and locate where Australia is situated, including surrounding seas and islands (New Zealand).
- Understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of a small area of the United Kingdom, and of a small area in a contrasting non-European country

## Art –Sculpture

This half term the children will explore sculpture. They will be looking at the artists Marc and Gillie Schattner.

The children will be taught key knowledge and skills to help them create our Big Piece:

### To create a 3D shape animal sculpture using clay

- Manipulate clay for a variety of purposes.
- Understand the safety and basic care of materials and tools.
- Experiment with constructions and joining techniques.

## PE

In our PE lessons we will be doing:



**Gymnastics** – In this unit pupils will develop skills required in gymnastic such as jumping, rolling, balancing and travelling individually and in groups to create short sequences. The children will begin to understand the use of shapes, levels and directions when creating a sequence of movement.

**Target games** – Target games are games where players send an object towards a target. Pupils will develop their understanding of the principles of defending and attacking for target games. They will develop the skills of throwing, rolling and striking towards a target.

## RE

The children will be taught key knowledge and skills to help them answer our Big Question:

### How do different religious groups say thank you to God?

Respond and reflect on what individuals and communities do and why, so that pupils begin to understand what prayer, worship and reflection mean to a religious community.



## P.S.H.E- 'Dreams and Goals



This half term, the children will explore:

- Achieving realistic goals
- Perseverance
- Learning strengths
- Learning with others
- Group co-operation
- Contributing to and sharing success

## Computing

This half term the children will explore 'Video Creation'. They will aim to achieve a Big Piece, 'masking' during a story time. This means they will use an app to import their moving (and talking) face on to a picture storybook.

- They will know how to use tools to add effects to video
- They will know how to begin to use green screen techniques and masking with support.

## Music



This half term, the children will continue to develop their skills relating to the musical elements of beat, rhythm and pitch. They will learn songs about a traditional Aboriginal dreamtime story and accompany themselves on tuned and untuned percussion whilst further extending their knowledge of written notation.

## Read Write Inc.

Children will take part in daily Read Write Inc. During these sessions, they will learn to blend and segment phonics sounds to read and spell words.

### Guided reading

Children who have completed Read Write Inc. will take part in daily guided reading sessions. This will include, reading comprehension, spelling, grammar and punctuation. These children will come home with 2 reading books of their choice that will be changed every Thursday.