



EMPOWER Curriculum - Parent Overview



Lower School - Autumn Term I 2025

English, Language and Communication

- Students will read every day. They read with adults, friends, in a small group or use Teach My Monster on laptops or iPads.
- Students will develop key vocabulary and listening skills as well as daily phonics.
- In English students will be exploring different fiction and non-fiction texts to help their understanding of different genres and writing styles. The first sequence of learning will be to use their senses to explore the signs of Autumn to produce an information poster about this season.

Mathematics, Science and DT

- In maths students will look at place value learning what each number is worth, number calculation, measure and outdoor learning. Each class will also have a time or money lesson weekly.
- In Science this term we are exploring key ideas about our Solar System, including the planets, the Earth's orbit, and how these link into day, night, and the changing seasons.
- In DT we will be looking at moving objects, then use our modelling skills to make a tractor.

Personal Development and Digital Literacy

- In PD students will have the opportunity to take part in Cycling. They will develop their confidence on the bike, balance and co-ordination.
- In PSHE we are developing our sense of self with the 'Who I am' topic. We will be learning about families and people who care for us, plus choices towards balancing mental health.
- In computing we will explore touch screen games, practise typing letters confidently, role-play with computers, and learn to dictate short sentences into digital devices.

Opportunities to Learn About the World Around

- In geography we will be learning about the UK and the differences between towns, cities and rural areas and exploring these ideas with Barnaby Bear.
- In RE we will be learning about being special and what makes us feel that we belong.

World of Work and Independent Living

- In food studies the students will be focusing on their basic cooking skills including knife skills and how to use a kettle and microwave safely. The students will make and try fruit kababs, tasty toast and microwave scrambled eggs.

Engagement in the Arts

- In Art, we will be using collage to create images of ourselves and the world around us. We will enjoy looking at the colours of autumn and making some seasonal crafts.
- In Music, will be learning to sing, play, improvise, compose and appraise hip hop songs.

Real Life Contexts

- Our topic this half term is **We are Britain**.
- We will be doing lots of learning outside including a trip to Arlington Court, Horse riding at Calvert Devon, visits from Appledore Book Festival and the Wonder Dome - a Space exploration planetarium.
- We are hoping to go on a trip to the church for Harvest Festival.