SPS Whole School Curriculum

Phase 1 (Years 1&2) Cycle A (2026-27)

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Theme	**Fire and Ice** *This term, the children will travel through time and across the globe! They'll discover the dramatic story of the Great Fire of London, learning about this significant event in British history and the people who lived through it. The children will also become Arctic explorers, investigating the icy landscapes at the top of our world and the amazing animals that live there. Through stories, hands-on activities, and creative projects, they'll develop their understanding of the past and the world around them.*	**Kings, Queens and Castles** *Kings, Queens and Castles is an exciting topic where we will learn about castles, the people who lived in them and the important jobs they did. We will enjoy a range of stories, poems and non-fiction texts linked to kings, queens and castles. The children will also learn about Queen Elizabeth II and talk to grandparents about changes within living memory. We will visit the spectacular Arundel Castle to see the features of a castle first hand, before finishing the topic with a special Jubilee-style celebration.*	**Beyond our School Gate** *This term, the children will explore the rich history of Steyning and discover what makes our local area special. They will learn about significant people, places and events from the past, helping them understand how our community has changed over time. Through a locality walk and first-hand experiences, the children will investigate the features of Steyning and develop a deeper connection with where they live. This topic will encourage them to become curious historians and geographers of their own local area.*
English	The children will continue to develop their writing skills through exciting topics like letters, recounts, and information texts. They'll learn to write complete sentences using capital letters, full stops, and finger spaces. As the term progresses, they'll add more detail to their writing using describing words (adjectives) and joining words (conjunctions like 'and' and 'because'). They'll write letters to story characters, create fact files about the Great Fire of London, and write their own adventure stories based on an explorer's journey to the Arctic.	The children will explore stories, poetry and non-fiction linking to our topic. They will develop their sentence writing by using conjunctions, suffixes, adjectives, verbs and pronouns to create engaging descriptions and narratives. The children will learn about different sentence types, write a castle job advert to persuade, and create their own acrostic and sensory poems. They will also develop their reading and writing skills through predictions, sequencing and writing character, setting and journey descriptions.	The children will build their writing skills through stories, poetry and imaginative activities linked to our topic. They will learn to write and extend sentences using a range of punctuation, conjunctions, adjectives and expanded noun phrases. The children will create character descriptions, narratives, instructions and rhyming poems. They will also develop their understanding of story structure by sequencing events and using time connectives in their writing.
Key Texts	• The Jolly Postman *by Allan Ahlberg* • Meerkat Mail *by Emily Gravett* • Dear Dinosaur *by Chae Strathie* • The Great Fire of London *by Susanna Davidson* • Samuel Pepys' diary extracts *(real historical writing from 1666)* • The Egg *by M. P. Robertson*	• The Castle the King *by Rebecca Colby and Tom Froese* • Non- fiction books about castles • Look inside the Castle *by Conrad Mason* • Journey *by Aaron Becker* • The Best Children's Poetry from Agard to Zephaniah *by Michael Rosen* • The King's Pants *by Nicholas Allan*	• Room on the Broom *by Julia Donaldson* • Camille and the Sunflowers: A Story about Vincent Van Gogh *by Laurence Anholt* • Non fiction texts about the history of Steyning and the surrounding areas

	• The Search for the Giant Arctic Jellyfish *by Chloe Savage* • Non-fiction books about the Arctic	• A First Poetry Book *by Pie Corbett and Gaby Morgan* • The King's Breakfast *by A.A. Milne*	
Maths	The children will build confidence with numbers up to 100. They'll learn to count forwards and backwards and compare which numbers are bigger or smaller. They'll develop their addition and subtraction skills, learning number bonds and different strategies for solving problems. The children will also explore 2D and 3D shapes, learning their names and properties, and discovering patterns and symmetry.	The children will explore multiplication and division through grouping, sharing, doubling, halving, and odd and even numbers. They will learn to measure, compare and order length and height using both standard and non-standard units. The children will also practise using multiplication and division facts involving 2s, 5s and 10s. In statistics, they will collect, present and interpret data using tally charts, tables, block diagrams and pictograms.	The children will learn about money, including recognising coins and notes, counting amounts and finding change. They will explore fractions, including halves, thirds and quarters, and learn how they represent parts of a whole. The children will also learn to tell the time and solve problems involving days, months and hours. In addition, they will measure and compare mass, capacity and temperature, and describe position, movement and turns.
Science	In Science, the children will become materials detectives! They'll investigate everyday materials like wood, metal, plastic, glass, and paper, exploring which materials are best for different jobs. Through hands-on experiments, they'll discover how materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting, and stretching. They'll test their ideas and make observations like real scientists.	In Science, the children will learn about animals, including humans, and how they grow and change as they get older. They will explore what animals need to survive, including food, water and air. The children will also learn how to stay healthy through exercise, a balanced diet and good hygiene.	The children will explore living things and their habitats, learning the difference between things that are living, dead and never alive. They will investigate habitats and how plants and animals depend on them to meet their basic needs. The children will also learn about simple food chains. In addition, they will observe how plants grow from seeds and bulbs and find out what plants need to stay healthy.
History	The children will step back in time to 1666 to learn about the Great Fire of London. They'll discover how the fire started, how it spread through the city, and how people fought to stop it. They'll also learn about Samuel Pepys, a famous diarist who wrote about the fire, and understand why this event was so important in British history.	In History, the children will learn about the life and achievements of Queen Elizabeth II and the role of the monarchy today. They will explore changes within living memory through stories, photographs, videos and conversations with older family members. The children will learn about important events such as the Queen's Coronation, Jubilees and links to the Crown Jewels.	The children will explore the rich history of Steyning, learning about significant local people, places and events. They will investigate how Steyning has changed over time using photographs and visitors to support their learning. The children will also learn about the achievements of local residents Julia Donaldson and Sally Gunnell and the impact they have had.
Geography	The children will explore our amazing planet! They'll learn the names of the seven continents and five oceans, and use world maps, atlases, and globes to locate them. This will help them understand where different countries are and how our world is organised.	The children will compare London with Australia, exploring the human and physical features of each place. They will learn about Australia as part of the Commonwealth and its links to King Charles III. To help them develop their understanding of the wider world and bring the learning to life, the children will take part in an exciting 'flight' to Australia.	In Geography, the children will explore Steyning through maps, aerial photographs and a locality walk. They will learn to use simple compass directions and map symbols to identify key landmarks and follow routes around the town. The children will also create their own simple maps.

Art	Inspired by the artist Sonia Delaunay, the children will develop their drawing and painting skills. They'll learn to create light and dark tones, draw from observation, and explore patterns and shapes. In painting, they'll mix colours to create tints (by adding white) and shades (by adding black), and learn how to describe and match colours.	The children will explore artwork inspired by the Book of Kells. They will develop their printmaking skills by creating repeating patterns and printing with a range of natural and man-made objects. The children will experiment with colour, shape and overprinting techniques. They will use these skills to create their own decorative illuminated letters and patterned artwork.	The children will explore the work of artists including Thomas W. McDonnell, Richard Rowan and Pier J. They will use digital photography and scanography to record their local environment and create their own artwork. The children will investigate patterns found locally and use these as inspiration for printing and design. They will also create self-portraits and contribute to a class yearbook.
D&T	The children will learn textile skills by designing and making their own Christmas decorations. They'll use felt, stuffing, and sewing techniques to create decorations to hang on their trees at home. This project will teach them how to design, make, and evaluate their work.	The children will design, make and evaluate their own moving models. They will create a Coronation carriage using wheels and axles and build castle drawbridges using simple mechanisms. The children will develop skills such as cutting, joining and combining materials for a purpose.	The children will learn about healthy eating and where food comes from as they design, make and evaluate a range of simple dishes. They will prepare foods such as sandwiches, fruit salad and pizza while developing key food preparation skills.
Computing	The children will explore technology around them, learning to recognise different types of technology in school and how to use it responsibly. They'll also develop digital photography skills, learning how to capture and edit photographs for different purposes.	The children will learn how to create simple animations by programming characters to move and tell a story. They will also explore how to sort and group information looking at properties and labels. Alongside this, there will be an online safety lesson to help them use technology safely and responsibly.	The children will explore digital music, using technology to create rhythms, melodies and their own musical compositions. They will also learn how to design and program interactive quizzes, using simple algorithms and sequences of code.
PE	The children will develop their physical skills through dance, fundamental movement skills (running, jumping, hopping, and skipping), fitness activities, and team-building challenges. They'll learn to work cooperatively, follow instructions, and develop their coordination, balance, and agility.	The children will learn to create balances, linking movements and using apparatus with control. They will also take part in athletics, improving their running, jumping and throwing skills. The children will learn how to apply these skills in different situations while building coordination, strength and teamwork.	In PE, the children will develop their gymnastics skills by creating sequences and using apparatus with control and confidence. They will also improve their throwing, catching, striking and aiming skills through a range of games and challenges. Through dance, they will use movement to express ideas and tell stories.
Music	The children will explore sea songs and shanties, linking to their geography learning about oceans. They'll use their voices expressively and learn traditional songs in different styles. They'll also prepare for the Christmas production and learn to play the djembe drum.	The children will explore how sounds can be represented using graphic notation and create their own musical symbols. They will experiment with creating and combining different sounds using instruments and voices. The children will also learn to create, remember and perform simple rhythm and pitch patterns.	The children will create seaside-themed compositions using their voices, instruments and sound effects to tell musical stories. They will explore rhythm, pitch and timbre while experimenting with different ways to create and combine sounds. Through recorder lessons, the children will develop their note-reading skills and learn to play simple melodies with increasing confidence. They will also practise reading and

			performing musical notation and rhythms.
RSE&PSHE	The children will learn about relationships and how to help themselves and others feel happy and safe. They'll explore what makes people special, how to show respect, and strategies for managing disagreements with friends and family. They'll also learn about staying safe online and how to behave respectfully when using the internet.	In PSHE, the children will learn how to keep themselves healthy and safe in everyday life. They will explore how illnesses can spread and ways to reduce the risk of getting ill. The children will also learn about the role of healthcare workers and how to get help in an emergency.	The children will learn how to build safe, kind and respectful relationships with others. They will explore families, friendships, personal boundaries and how to recognise and respond to unkind behaviour. The children will also learn how to stay safe online, including how to protect personal information and identify trusted adults who can help when they are worried or unsure.
RE	The children will explore two important Christian beliefs. First, they'll learn about the Creation story and what it tells Christians about God and the world. They'll think about being thankful for our amazing world. Later in the term, they'll learn about the Nativity story and why Christmas is important to Christians, exploring how this story guides Christian beliefs and actions.	In RE, the children will learn about Hanukkah, exploring its story, traditions and importance to Jewish people. They will discover why candles are lit, learn about the dreidel game and discuss ideas of fairness, right and wrong. The children will also compare Hanukkah with Christmas and share their own thoughts about miracles.	In RE, the children will explore the Christian concept of Gospel and learn about the message of forgiveness, peace and kindness that Jesus taught. They will also learn about Islam, exploring the importance of Jum'ah, the mosque and worship within the Muslim community. Through both units, the children will reflect on shared values, respect for others and the importance of special beliefs and traditions.
Enrichment	To support their learning about the Great Fire of London, the children will welcome firefighters into school to learn about fire safety and how fires are tackled today. They will also take part in a safe, supervised fire experiment to explore how and why the fire spread so quickly in 1666. These exciting experiences will bring history to life and help make their learning memorable.	To bring our Kings, Queens and Castles topic to life, the children will visit Arundel Castle, where they will explore a real historic castle and learn about life in the past. This exciting trip will support their KS1 History learning about significant people, castles and how life has changed over time. Children will discover the roles of people who lived and worked in castles, explore historic rooms and artefacts, and experience history first-hand. The visit will help them develop a deeper understanding of the past while creating lasting memories of their learning.	To enrich their learning about the local area, the children will visit Woods Mill Nature Reserve, where they will explore habitats, plants and wildlife through hands-on outdoor activities. They will also take part in locality walks around Steyning, investigating important landmarks and learning about the history and features of their community. These real-life experiences will help bring their Geography, History and Science learning to life while developing their understanding of the world around them.
Phase 1 (Years 1&2) Cycle B (2027-28)			
	Autumn Term	**Spring Term**	**Summer Term**
Theme	**A Long, Long Time Ago** *They will learn about dinosaurs and the important discoveries made by Mary Anning, helping us understand life millions of years ago. The children*	**People Who Help Us** *The children will learn about the people who help us in our local community and the important jobs they do. The children will also learn about Florence*	**Our Wonderful World** *The children will develop their understanding of the United Kingdom, learning about the four countries, their flags, and some of the foods and traditions*

	will also discover how humans first took to the skies, learning about the Montgolfier Brothers' hot air balloon and the achievements of the pioneers of flight. Through stories, investigations and hands-on activities, they will develop an understanding of how the past has shaped the world we live in today.	*Nightingale and how her work helped to improve hospitals and healthcare. Through their learning, they will develop an appreciation of the people who make a positive difference to our lives every day.*	*that make each one unique. The children will also investigate seasonal vegetables grown in the UK and carry out a product survey to help them design, make and evaluate their own healthy salads.*
English	The children will develop their phonics, spelling and sentence-writing skills, focusing on punctuation, capital letters and simple sentence construction. They will write autumn-themed poetry, create character descriptions using adjectives and expanded noun phrases, and explore a range of writing styles. The children will also write fact files about Amelia Earhart, developing their ability to write factually.	In Literacy, the children will develop their sentence-writing skills by using a range of suffixes and writing in both the present and past tense. They will create exciting character and setting descriptions using adjectives and expanded noun phrases inspired by *Supertato* and *Little Red Riding Hood*. The children will also practise sequencing stories and writing factual sentences about Florence Nightingale.	The children will develop their writing skills through instructions, poetry and persuasive writing. They will learn to use time connectives and imperative verbs to write clear instructions, as well as practise spelling the days of the week. The children will create acrostic poems about the world and design a persuasive travel brochure for an unfamiliar location.
Key Texts	• Super Duper You! *by Sophy Henn* • You Choose *by Nick Sharratt and Pippa Goodhart* • If I were I a Dinosaur *by Gabby Dawnay* • What can you see in Autumn? *by Sian Smith* • Sweep *by Louise Greig* • Bog Baby *by Jeanne Willis* • Balloon to Moon *by Gill Arbuthno*	• The Smartest Giant in Town *by Julia Donaldson* • Supertato: Veggies in the Valley of Doom *by Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet* • Supertato *by Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet* • Little People, Big Dreams: Florence Nightingale *by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara* • Little Red Riding Hood *by Brothers Grimm and Mike Gordon*	• How to catch a star *by Oliver Jeffers* • How to wash a wooly mammoth *by Michelle Robinson* • Pumpkin Soup *by Helen Cooper* • The Tiger-Skin Rug *by Gerald Rose* • The Lion Inside *by Rachel Bright*
Maths	The children will develop their understanding of place value within 20 and 100, learning to count, compare, order and partition numbers. They learn about addition and subtraction, number bonds, doubles, fact families and solving missing number problems. The children will also explore 2D and 3D shapes, learning to identify, sort and describe their properties.	The children will learn about addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, including counting in steps and exploring sharing, grouping and arrays. They will also measure and compare length and height, using standard units and solving practical problems. In addition, they will collect and interpret data using tally charts, tables, block diagrams and pictograms.	The children will learn about money, including recognising coins and notes, counting amounts and finding change. They will explore fractions, learn to tell the time, and solve practical mathematical problems. The children will also measure and compare mass, capacity and temperature, and describe position and movement.
Science	The children will explore seasonal changes, observing the weather and how day length changes during Autumn. They will investigate a range of everyday materials, learning to identify	The children will learn about animals, including humans, identifying animal groups and exploring their diets. They will compare the features of animals, including mammals, birds, reptiles,	In Science, the children will learn about a variety of plants, including wild plants, garden plants and trees. They will identify the different parts of plants and explore what helps them grow and stay

	different materials and describe their properties. The children will compare and sort materials based on their characteristics and why materials are used for different purposes.	amphibians and fish. The children will also learn about the human body and senses, as well as observing seasonal changes during Winter and Spring.	healthy. The children will also observe the signs of Summer, investigating how weather and day length change throughout the season.
History	The children will learn about Mary Anning and the impact her life has had in history. They will also discover the story of the first flights, learning about the achievements of the Montgolfier Brothers and the Wright Brothers. Through these significant historical events and individuals, the children will develop their understanding of how inventions and discoveries have shaped our world.	The children will learn about the life and achievements of Florence Nightingale and how her work helped to improve hospitals and nursing. They will explore why she is remembered as a significant historical figure and discover the lasting impact she has had on healthcare today.	
Geography		The children will learn about the seven continents and five oceans of the world. They will explore the human and physical features of different places and develop their understanding of where these continents and oceans are located. Through maps, globes and practical activities, they will begin to build their knowledge of the wider world.	In Geography, the children will learn about the four countries of the United Kingdom, their capital cities and surrounding seas. They will explore the difference between human and physical features, identifying landmarks and environments in the UK and beyond. The children will also use fieldwork and observation skills to investigate the geography of our school and its local area.
Art	The children will explore the work of Piet Mondrian and use a range of drawing and painting materials to create their own artwork. They will investigate texture through rubbings, experiment with different surfaces and learn about primary and secondary colours. Through these activities, they will develop their creativity and artistic skills.	In Art, the children will explore the work of Charles McGee and create their own 3D sculptures inspired by his use of pattern and shape. They will experiment with paper folding and a range of malleable materials, developing their skills in shaping, joining and constructing. The children will use repeating patterns and creative designs to enhance their artwork.	The children will explore the work of Alma Thomas and create colourful textile artwork inspired by her style. They will develop collaging skills by folding, tearing, layering and arranging different materials, and will also experiment with simple weaving using natural and man-made materials. Through these activities, the children will develop their creativity and understanding of texture, pattern and colour.
D&T	In DT, the children will design, make and evaluate a felt Christmas decoration. They will explore different decoration designs before creating their own appealing product to hang on a tree. The children will develop their skills in joining materials using glue and pins while learning about simple textile techniques.	The children will design and create moving pictures using simple mechanisms such as levers and sliders. They will use these skills to make a superhero, or emergency service worker come to life.	The children will learn about healthy eating and where food comes from as they prepare simple dishes such as coleslaw and potato salad. They will develop practical skills including grating, safe knife handling and food hygiene. Through this work, the children will explore seasonal foods grown in the UK and make links to their Geography learning.
Computing	In Computing, the children will learn about the different ways information technology is used in	The children will use digital tools to create artwork and compare creating art on a computer with	In Computing, the children will develop their programming skills by creating and debugging

	school and everyday life, and how it can be used responsibly. They will develop their programming skills by creating simple algorithms and controlling floor robots to complete tasks..	traditional methods. They will also learn how to collect, organise and present data using tally charts and pictograms. An online safety lesson will also be taught.	simple robot algorithms and making predictions about how programs will work. They will also explore digital writing, learning how to create and format text using a computer.
PE	The children will develop their movement and coordination through dance, creating performances inspired by *The Lost Toy* and *On Safari*. They will build fundamental skills such as balancing and jumping. Through yoga, they will explore strength, flexibility and mindfulness, and in team-building activities they will learn to communicate, cooperate and solve problems together.	In PE, the children will develop their gymnastics skills by creating balances, linking movements and using apparatus with control and confidence. They will also improve their ball skills through throwing, catching, dribbling and kicking activities. Through invasion and target games, the children will learn teamwork, simple tactics and how to aim accurately. Throughout the term, they will build coordination, confidence and physical fitness.	In PE, the children will develop their dance skills through imaginative themes such as *The Rainforest* and *Jack Frost*. They will also improve their athletics and gymnastics skills, focusing on running, jumping, balancing and creating sequences. Through net and wall games, they will learn to work with a partner, use rackets and develop simple game skills. Throughout the term, the children will build confidence, coordination and teamwork.
Music	The children will learn to play the djembe drum, exploring simple rhythms and musical notation. They will develop their singing skills through chants, rhymes, call-and-response songs and simple rounds. As the term progresses, the children will prepare for the Christmas production, learning songs by heart and performing with expression and confidence.	In Music, the children will be creating their own animal-inspired compositions using voices, instruments and movement. They will experiment with rhythm, sound effects and musical storytelling to bring their ideas to life. The children will also begin learning the ukulele, developing basic playing techniques, rhythm skills and an understanding of the instrument.	The children will create their own compositions inspired by The Sound Collector, using percussion instruments to explore rhythm, notation and sound. They will also begin learning the recorder, developing correct playing techniques and learning to read and perform simple melodies. Through group music-making, the children will build confidence in performing and listening to others.
RSE&PSHE	In PSHE, the children will learn about feelings and wellbeing, exploring ways to manage emotions and stay healthy. They will also learn how to care for others, the environment and their community, while developing an understanding of kindness, responsibility and making positive choices.	The children will learn about the different groups and communities they belong to, and explore how people earn and use money. They will also develop their understanding of healthy lifestyles, learning how food, exercise, sleep and good hygiene help to keep their bodies healthy. Through discussions and practical activities, the children will learn how to make positive choices for their wellbeing.	The children will learn about how their bodies change and grow, and how to keep themselves safe and healthy. They will explore personal boundaries, privacy and trusted adults who can help them when needed. The children will also learn how to recognise unsafe situations and make safe choices at home, at school and in the wider community.
RE	In RE, the children will learn about the Christian beliefs surrounding Creation and Christmas. They will explore the Creation story, the birth of Jesus and why these events are important to Christians. The children will also reflect on the world around them and consider what they are thankful for.	The children will learn about Purim, exploring the story of Esther and the traditions and celebrations that are important to Jewish people. They will also learn about Easter, discovering why Jesus' death and resurrection are central to Christian belief. Through these topics, the children will reflect on themes of celebration, hope, courage and faith.	In RE, the children will explore the Christian concept of Gospel, learning about Jesus' teachings and the message of good news. They will also learn about Milad un Nabi and why the Prophet Muhammad is important to Muslims. Through these topics, the children will develop their understanding of different faiths and the values of kindness, honesty and respect.

Enrichment	To bring our learning to life, the children will enjoy a special visit from Mary Anning, with a staff member taking on the role of the famous fossil hunter to share stories about her discoveries and achievements. The children will also showcase their learning and creative work in a class gallery, welcoming parents into school to celebrate everything they have discovered throughout the topic. These exciting experiences will help make learning memorable and encourage children to share their achievements with others.	Linking to Science and varying diets, the children will become wildlife detectives during a 'Whose Poo?' investigation afternoon. The children will also meet Florence Nightingale through a special role-play experience and explore their five senses through interactive sensory stations. We may also have a visit from the infamous Evil Pea!	To enrich their learning about the UK and the wider world, the children will explore and taste foods from different cultures. They will plant and grow their own vegetables, developing an understanding of where food comes from and how it is produced. The children will also visit Wakehurst Place, where they will explore plants, habitats and the natural environment through exciting hands-on activities.