

It's a Kind of Magic



In 1997 the world of children's books came alive with the introduction of Harry Potter and his experiences at the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry! J.K. Rowling introduced characters and settings that made her books a triumph. Presenting essential childhood themes of loyalty, friendship and triumph over adversity, this tale of how a young orphan holds on to hope as he pursues his destiny is nothing short of magical. In a half term where our theme captures and concludes every curriculum area and draws the academic year to a memorable end, what more could we wish for than the wisdom of Dumbledore and a school full of imagination and inspiration. Grab your broomsticks and enjoy the ride!

As language specialists...

The first two books in the Harry Potter novels introduce a wonderfully rich world of wizardry and imagination! Children will immerse themselves in the settings and storylines that will inspire daily writing tasks and bring the Hogwarts experience to life. There's so much to be learned from chapters that are crafted with grammatical purpose and adventurous vocabulary. Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them and The Wizarding Almanac will provide a framework for non-fiction work.

Arithmancy – The Magical Properties of Numbers

The summer term maths curriculum will be inspired by the challenges of Professor Septima Vector. Whilst she was renowned for being strict teacher of mathematics (and giving a lot of complicated homework), her problem-solving methods are second to none. Children will interact with lots of 'real world' mathematics, from managing the timetable for the Knight Bus and the Hogwarts Express, calculating the Quidditch scoreboard to shopping on Diagon Alley and working out exchange rates at Gringotts Bank. Lessons in potion making always require accurate measuring and an understanding of ratio, and there are more advanced recipes that are best managed with some simple algebra.

Across the curriculum

As Musicians

Music composed to stir magic and imagination is inspiring. From John Williams' score for Harry Potter to The Sorcerer's Apprentice – a symphonic poem by Paul Dukas – we will be listening, appreciating and responding through writing, dance and song.

As Fitness Experts

The summer term provides a wealth of opportunities for active learning both in and out of the classroom. Our focused Sport Week at the end of June will include a whole school sports day in the guise of the Triwizard Tournament. Back in the Muggle world, there will also be a nod to the football World Cup in a Willow Brook tournament. As well as athletics and team sports, each class will be working on a dance performance for our performance afternoon.

As Theologians and Thinkers

Year groups will continue to study their own curriculum in RE. The summer term leads classes to learn about inspiring people, sacred texts, symbols and a sense of belonging. Understanding different faiths builds knowledge and a sense of community. This term, this includes Hinduism, Judaism, Humanism and Christianity.

As Creative Artists

We will be using the illustrations of Jim Kay to appreciate how a graphic artist brings the words of an author to life. With the new Harry Potter series about to be launched on the BBC, we will also be working as costume designers.

As historians and Geographers, we will

be using maps from fantasy worlds (including the inventive concepts of the Marauders Map) to formally plot our own space and place. Using grid references and keys will explore and cement vocabulary and year group objectives. Looking at land use and comparing different aspects of physical and human geography of our two contrasting localities will see children absorbing subject-focused vocabulary with understanding.

As we look at the history of Hogwarts, the children will also be learning about Willow Brook's history and how both have changed over time. Plotting timelines and understanding progress through documents, photographs and written sources will weave a magical commentary.

Potions, herbology and Care of Magical Creatures

No Hogwarts curriculum would be complete without their unique approach to science. Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them introduces the Magizoologist, Newt Scamander, who understands that magical beasts have 'beauty and powers that we are privileged to observe and understand'. We will be classifying and comparing, understanding life cycles and reproduction and investigating habitats using our grounds. Comparing and classifying similar beasts from a mythical world will teach us a lot about order in the living world.

Muggle Studies (Studies of nonmagical life – British Values and Philosophy)

There is a strong theme of acceptance in the policies and practices of Hogwarts School. From the treatment of Muggle born to the values of the four houses, our British Values permeate community life. We will continue to look at Protected Characteristics and use assemblies and *My World* sessions to explore these themes and ideas.

Wellbeing and Wonder

The Hogwarts world offers an abundance of lessons around themes such as courage, resilience and friendship. The wisdom of Dumbledore is abundant, and we will be debating some of his finest quotes, starting with his premise that '*Our choices define us more than our abilities*'.

It's a Kind of Magic



The idea of filling a child's world with magic is a treat! From Harry Potter to Winnie the Witch, all sorts of adventures can come to life with the flick of a wand and a sprinkling of imagination. Whilst Willow Brook becomes Hogwarts for our older children, the world of writing will find new avenues and narratives in the playful stories of Winnie and Wilbur...after all, anything can happen when you say 'Abracadabra'!

As language specialists...

The wonderful world of Winnie the Witch will bring imagination! Children will immerse themselves in the settings and storylines that will inspire daily writing tasks and bring Winnie's wonderful world to life. There will be a connection to past topics in the choice of books included to build on learning. Winnie will visit the seaside, go under the sea, embark on a bug safari and hold her own sports day. The texts teach sentence writing and story plotting, as well as building confidence and adventurous vocabulary. *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* and small glimpses of Harry Potter will provide a framework for non-fiction work, as well as ensuring that our whole-school topic is wonderfully Willow Brook...which is always magical!

Across the curriculum

As musicians

Music composed to stir magic and imagination is inspiring. From John Williams' score for Harry Potter to *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* – a symphonic poem by Paul Dukas – we will be listening, appreciating and responding through writing, dance and song. This will culminate in a showcase of creative talent!

As theologians and thinkers

RE sessions this half term in EYFS focus on the theme of Caring for our Wonderful World. This explores what it means to be a positive member of a community and looks at the different teaching around the story of creation in key faiths. In Year 1 the focus is on signs and symbols and how places of worship inspire a sense of belonging.

As fitness experts

The summer term provides a wealth of opportunities for active learning both in and out of the classroom. Our focused Sport Week at the end of June will include a Harry Potter themed Sports Day. Back in the Muggle world, there will be athletics and team games to build a competitive spirit and rise to new challenges.

As Creative Artists

We will be working alongside the famous illustrators who bring magical stories to life. Korky Paul is an inspiring graphic artist – his pictures add the magic needed to bring books like Winnie the Witch to life. His style can teach us a lot about a illustration, line drawing and the use of colour.

Arithmancy – The Magical Properties of Numbers

The EYFS/Year 1 curriculum will continue to be delivered. There will be plenty of outdoor and active learning as the children combine play and learning to master different mathematical concepts. There will be plenty of consolidation when it comes to numbers and simple arithmetic. Year 1 will be securing their understanding of place value to 100 and using their knowledge to manage money. (Shopping in Diagon Alley is always a treat!) Telling the time will be on the agenda...after all, you don't want to be late for the Knight Bus!

In Understanding the World, we will

travel with Winnie on her holiday to the seaside, which will enable children to compare and contrast our village setting to the coast. There's new vocabulary to learn, experiences of our own to share and an amazing globe to be explored! There's more to learn about life under the sea, thanks to Winnie's submarine expedition.

As some of our days see us meeting Harry Potter and his friends, we will be looking at the history of Hogwarts. We'll be using similar pieces of evidence to explore the Willow Brook timeline to understand how we have changed and grown.

Potions, herbology and Care of Magical Creatures

No Hogwarts term would be complete without their unique approach to herbology and magical creatures. In the book *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, Newt Scamander, understands that animals have 'beauty and powers that we are privileged to observe and understand'. We will be classifying and comparing, understanding life cycles and investigating habitats using our grounds. Learning all about beasts from a story world will teach us a lot about the order of life in our world.

Values and Wellbeing

Stories with magic at their hearts often give us great lessons to learn. Winnie the Witch can face a problem and find a solution with a clever thought and the flick of a wand. For us Muggles, we must build a community with shared values. We will be talking about British Values - learning about the importance of mutual respect, liberty and tolerance. Add some wise words from Dumbledore and a super text on *Invisible Things* by Andy Pizza, and you have a recipe for some inspiring learning.

