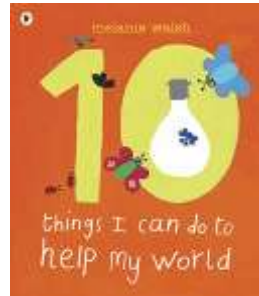


Topic Overview – Cygnet Class – Year 1- Summer Term 2026 - 'What we nourish today, will flourish tomorrow'



In **English**, the children will continue to improve reading and writing skills through our Read Write Inc structured programme. In addition, they will read and respond to a range of different text types; the core texts for English are '10 things I can do to help my world' by Melanie Walsh and 'How to Find Gold' by Viviane Schwarz. Spellings will be given weekly, and handwriting will be a priority. When writing, children will be encouraged to join using 'and' and to begin using question and exclamation marks. **Support your child at home by encouraging daily reading, help them learn their common exception words and see the opportunities to write, such as a short diary entry each day.**



In **Computing**, the children will experience programming robots with algorithms of their design using Beebots. This topic will lead into using Scratch Jr. to programme a sprite on the laptops. **Support your child at home by helping them to develop a positive, healthy relationship with technology. Explore together the possibilities for safely researching topics of interest, or opportunities to practise skills such as times tables on TT Rockstars. You could have a go at Scratch Jr at home, letting the children teach you the skills they have learnt. Remind children how to play safely and kindly online.**

In **Maths**, this half term your child will be learning about multiplication and division using 2, 5 and 10, how to make arrays and adding and sharing equal groups. In our fractions unit, the children will learn about halves and quarters of shapes and quantities. The children will partition numbers to 100 into tens and ones. They will also learn to tell the time to the hour and half an hour. In money they will recognise coins and notes and count in coins, using the prior multiplication knowledge. **Support your child by counting items in 2s, 5s and 10s. Practise telling the time and counting coins. Help children to log into their Numbots and TT Rock star accounts as these are a great resource for practising skills.**

Art and Design & D.T
Lessons in **Art** this term will be focused on 3D art, giving children opportunities to work with clay and study patterns and designs in aboriginal art work. In our **DT** unit the children will study structures and be creating a windmill. In this learning children will use tools to punch holes and scissors to carefully cut, and construct and attach working sails. **Support your child at home by looking at aboriginal art together and discussing how the images make you feel. You might like to visit a local art exhibition. Practise fine motor skills by using paper clips and pegs, using a hole punch and using scissors to carefully cut lines and shapes.**

In **Science**, we will be taking our learning outside this term as the children observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. They will be investigating how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy. Building on last term's work the children will work scientifically to observe, identify and classify and conduct simple tests. **Support your child at home by planting seeds and caring for the emerging plants together. Go for walks and notice what is happening around us in nature as the season changes from spring to summer.**

In **PSHE** our first theme is 'Relationships'. During this topic, children will be learning about families and friends - how to be a good friend, knowing who the people that help us are and identifying people who are special. After half term, the topic is 'Changing Me' where children get to learn about life cycles and understand how amazing their development is and how they can do things now that they couldn't do as a baby. **Support your child at home by sharing photos of them throughout their lives, discussing developmental stages. Talk about special people in their lives and encourage them to ask for help when they need it.**

History and Geography In **History**, the children will learn about an historic event of international significance, but which is beyond their living memory: The great fire of London. They will learn about the historical sources of information, the facts about how and where the fire started and why the fire spread so quickly, concluding with the longer-term effects and changes made in London after the fire. In **Geography**, we will be developing our understanding of our location on Earth and our local area. The children will be studying maps, learning about keys and mapping our local area. **Support your child by looking at maps together and exploring Google Earth. Research facts or help them recall information about the great fire of London.**

In **RE**, the first question the class will explore is 'Why do Christians trust Jesus and follow Him?' Learning about the disciples in the bible and how Christians show their faith. After half term, the class will study the topic of Judaism asking 'Why is the Torah such a joy for the Jewish community?' During this the children will find out why Jewish families say so many prayers and blessings. **Support your child at home by helping them to understand that there are people with different faiths and no specific faith. Help them to understand that diversity in our world is a richness, and that when we respect each other, we can live together harmoniously. You may like to visit a place of worship to see the building or experience a service.**

In **PE** children will learn about the skills and rules of tennis, invasion games and athletics. Year 1 will also have swimming lessons. **Support your child at home by playing catch with a ball, try out skipping or practise the skill of riding a bike. To be ready for sports day, have a go at different types of running races, remember how to start a race and how to stop at the end!**

In **Music**, the children will learn to sing and play a song. After half term, our theme is about the 'Seaside' and the children will explore dynamics. Children will learn how events, actions and feelings within stories can be represented by pitch, dynamics and tempo. **Support your child at home by singing familiar songs or rhymes together, enjoying and appreciating all types of music.**