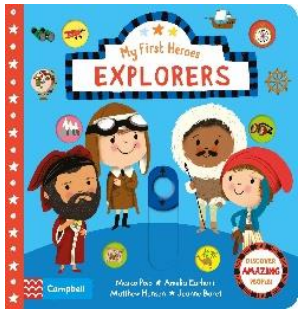
Let's Explore!



Do you want to be an explorer? Where would you go? What would you discover? Let's find out about explorers from the past and the different journeys that they made and why we remember them today.

English:
The children will be using role play and story sequencing activities to orally retell the story of The Lonely Beast and Baby Beast. They will also be introduced to time connectives and 'bossy' verbs and using these to sequence and write a set of instructions. They will be writing questions to ask a real-life explorer and writing explorer fact files. They will be revisiting letter formation, the use of capital letters, full stops and spaces between words when sentence writing.

Phonics: Phase 5
ir, ie, ue, u (unicorn), o (go), i (tiger), a (paper), e (he), a-e, i-e, o-e, u-e, e-e, ew, ie (shield), aw
Grow the code: (igh) ie I i-e, (ai) ay a a-e, (oa) oa o o-e, (ee) e ie e-e ea, (oo) ew u-e u ue

Tricky words:
their, people, oh, your, Mr, Mrs, Ms, ask, could, would, should, our, house, mouse, water, want

History: Significant people from the past - Explorers
- Understand what significant means.
- Learn that Explorers are people who travel to new and distant places.
- Learn about some of the ways that we can find about the recent past and also about explorers from long ago.
- Ask and answer questions about the past using a range of sources, artefacts, photographs and books.
- Describe the key events and achievements in the lives of the explorers studied.
- Make some simple comparisons between explorations in the recent and more distant past.

They will learn about Matthew Henson, Amy Johnson and Neil Armstrong.

Design and Technology: Joining Materials
Design:
- To know what a design is
- To use pictures and words to design a flag.

Make:
- To explain what they are making and why.
- To select tools and equipment to cut, shape, join and finish.
- To use a simple template.
- To learn how to sew using a simple running stitch.
- To join materials in different ways.

Evaluate:
- To talk about what they have made.

The children will be making Fabric Flags for an explorer using techniques such as simple sewing stiches, stapling and gluing. They will also be decorating their flags based on their designs. Finally, they will evaluate their flags that they have made.

Brookland Infant & Nursery School

Year 1 – Autumn 2 2026 - 2027

Be Kind, Grow Together, Learn Forever

Maths:

Number: Addition & Subtraction (within 10)

Addition	**Subtraction**
• Fact families- addition facts • Find number bonds for numbers within 10 • Systematic methods for number bonds within 10 • Number bonds to 10 • Compare number bonds • Addition- adding together	• Subtraction- taking away, how many left, crossing out • Subtraction- taking away, how many left, introducing the subtraction symbol • Subtraction- finding a part, breaking apart • Fact families- the 8 facts • Subtraction- counting back
Geometry: Shape - recognise and name 3D shapes, sort 3D shapes, Recognise and name 2D shapes, sort 2D shapes and make patterns with 3D and 2D shapes.	

The maths activities will be very practical. The children use a range of concrete and pictorial representations alongside sentence stems to support their understanding.

PE:

- **Indoor: Gymnastics** – Children learn to use space safely and effectively. They develop basic gymnastic actions on the floor and use low apparatus. Basic skills of jumping, rolling, balancing and travelling are used to create movement phrases. Children develop their confidence in performing. They begin to understand the use of levels, directions and shapes when travelling and balancing.
- **Outdoor: Fitness** – Children develop their understanding of the benefits of exercise and a healthy lifestyle on their physical body, their mood and their overall health.

Music: Winter Festivals - Reggae, Classical, Pop, Hip Hop

The children will be learning to sing different songs, explore tuned and untuned instruments, starting and stopping together. They will also be learning to keep the pulse, clap rhythms and start to improvise by making up their own simple rhythms.

PSHE: Celebrating Difference

The children will be thinking about how important it is to accept and celebrate that everyone is different and to understand that these differences make us all special and unique.
Anti-Bullying week takes place this half term. The children will also be raising money for Children in Need and Save the Children.

Brookland Value: Honesty

Computing: Programming & Computer Science.

The children will continue to learn that computers are controlled by instructions and these are called algorithms. They will be learning how important algorithms are for computers to work correctly. They will be exploring how to move a programmable toy by inputting simple instructions.

RE: Origins

Big Question 2: "Where do we come from?"
The children will think about the nature of existence and their place in the world. They will think about what creation means in relation to the natural world. The children will learn about creation stories from different religions and share their own ideas about how the world began.