



Voyagers/ Phileas Fogg



Autumn Term 2026

More about our topic...

This term in Year 1 and 2 we will start off the year by taking part in a local historical study. For the first two weeks, children will be expanding their locational knowledge and researching our school's historical links to Sempringham Abbey, and the Gilbertine Monks, including St Gilbert, or Princess Gwenllïan, the imprisoned daughter of the last native Prince of Wales.

After our historical study we will be moving on to a new topic named 'Phileas Fogg.' This is an exciting geography topic, during which we will be looking at the journey of Phileas Fogg as he travelled around the world in just 80 days! We will be studying the continents and oceans of the World. Through cross-curricular learning, we will partake in some exciting activities, and we are looking forward to this new adventure! Pupils will extend their geographical knowledge by locating the world's countries using maps, looking at the physical and human geography of different countries and comparing these to the UK.



Our key books will be linked to the author Julia Donaldson and are fantastic class books that the children will all enjoy.

Make sure you continue to keep an eye on our class web pages to see the amazing learning taking place!

English

In English, we will be working on our written skills and our ability to write for different purposes through our topic. Some of the exciting writing opportunities this term include: examining and understanding stories with a patterned language, creating a letter for a purpose, traditional rhymes and creating an information text.

Reading for pleasure and enjoyment will lie at the heart of our English curriculum. Children will be involved in daily Read Write Inc sessions. They will take part in group discussions and will be encouraged to share their own views and reading interests. Through discussion and questioning comprehension skills will be developed, enabling children to increase understanding and appreciation of literature.



Children are actively encouraged to continue reading at home- they will have a Book bag book which they will be able to read to you and a book to share (not decodable) for an adult to read to them. Don't forget to use our wonderful local libraries – the books are free to borrow!

Opportunities within all areas of the curriculum will be made available for children to develop their spoken language through discussion, drama and presentations.

Maths

Maths will be taught as an individual subject and will continue to adhere to the curriculum objectives. Teaching will enable children to become fluent in arithmetic as well as being able to reason and problem solve. Maths lessons in autumn term will cover place value, addition and subtraction and shape. Pupils will be extended at every opportunity to ensure their potential as mathematicians is achieved.

Take home task to support work in school

To prepare for our new topic, it would be brilliant if the children could find something out about St Gilbert or Princess Gwenllïan. You could go to the Abbey and walk the memorial slate path or visit **the Magic Silhouette**: a special stone memorial for her. When you walk up to it, the natural shape of the rock looks just like the shadow of a nun! Perhaps you could draw a sketch of it? Children can present their findings through a way of their choice. It could be a drawing of the Abbey or some written facts about St Gilbert or the Princess.

