

Benington C of E Primary School – Acorn Class Curriculum Map 2026–2027

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic	Marvellous Me	Sparkle and Shine	Winter Wonderland	Dinosaur Roar!	Sunshine and Sunflowers	Big Wide World
Reception Story	What makes me a me?	The Jolly Christmas Postman	One Snowy Night	The Girl and the Dinosaur	The Little Gardener	Handa's Surprise
Other Texts <i>We will also include a selection of non-fiction texts</i>	Super Duper You Five Minutes' Peace Owl Babies Funnybones Elmer	How to catch a star The Nativity The Snowman	Lost and Found The Emperor's Egg Winter Sleep	Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs Dinosaur Roar If I Had a Dinosaur	The Very Hungry Caterpillar The Tiny Seed Errol's Garden	All Are Welcome Under the Same Sky My Granny Went to Market
What We'll Learn	We will get to know each other, talk about our families, and learn about keeping healthy and safe. Children will explore what makes them unique and special.	We will explore different celebrations and festivals, and learn about special family traditions. Children will practise writing cards and acting out stories.	We will find out what happens in winter, explore ice and snow, and learn how animals survive in the cold. Children will make bird feeders and explore changes in the world around them.	We will learn about different dinosaurs, what fossils are, and the difference between carnivores and herbivores. Children will investigate weather and explore rainbows and puddles.	We will find out what plants need to grow, explore minibeasts, and learn about life cycles. Children will plant their own seeds and watch them grow.	We will explore different places and habitats, learn how people live around the world, and think about journeys we might go on. Children will reflect on their year and prepare for Year 1.
Big Questions	Who am I? Who helps me? What makes me special? What can I do now that I couldn't do before?	Why do we celebrate? How do people celebrate differently? What makes a story exciting?	What happens in winter? How do animals survive the cold? Why does ice melt?	What were dinosaurs like? What does extinct mean? What are fossils? What happens when it rains?	What do plants need to grow? What minibeasts can we find? How do plants change over time?	Where in the world do I live? How are places different? What journeys can we go on? Am I ready for Year 1?
WOW Moments	Enjoy an autumn walk to spot leaves changing colour. Celebrate Harvest Festival with songs and food. Parents are welcome to visit and talk about their jobs. Owl visit. Whole School faiths trip.	Diwali lights and stories. Make a clay Diya lamp. Take part in Remembrance. Perform in our Christmas Nativity play. Stories around the campfire.	Go on a winter nature walk to spot frost and ice. Celebrate Chinese New Year. Make bird feeders for our playground. Discover mysterious animal tracks, rescue animals from frozen ice and explore how animals survive in cold snowy habitats.	Seasonal spring walk. See the snowdrops. Stevenage Museum Trip. Become paleontologists and take part in a fossil dig. Create our own volcano eruption.	Seasonal walk to see bluebells and changes in nature. Plant sunflowers and watch them grow. Create a class flower garden. Wildflower and minibeast hunt. Create flower crowns / pressed flower artwork.	Watch caterpillars turn into butterflies with our own butterfly garden. Fruit tasting market inspired by Handa's surprise. Take part in transition activities for Year 1.