



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning

Academic Year 2013-2014

- Year: 1
- Term: 3

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Ms N Farrow
- Ms Golland
- Mrs Asquith
- Mrs Dewsnap

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term we are piloting our new curriculum. Instead of individual termly topics in each year group we now have whole-school 'Themes' and our first pilot theme is called 'Marvellous Machines'.

This is our third curriculum overview of the year and the aim is to provide you with information about what your children will be learning along with tips for supporting them at home. We are also arranging parent/carer workshops for **Wednesday 5th February** to explain the calculation strategies used to teach and learn the four rules of number (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). Further details will follow in due course.

If you have any questions about the curriculum or if you require any support yourself please let us know. We would also like to hear from you if you feel able to support us in any way – especially if you have an interest or expertise in anything being covered during this theme. At the end of the theme we intend to have a whole-school exhibition - to which you will all be invited - so we can share what we have done and celebrate all the children have learned, achieved and enjoyed.

I would also welcome your thoughts and feedback either throughout the theme or via a questionnaire I will send home at the end of the theme. Thank you for your continued support; it really is appreciated by us all.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

R.E. Topic 1: Local church - Community: Special people

Children will be learning about special people in their lives and the qualities that make them special and then they will go on to think about special people in the Church community and what they do for others. They will think about celebrating Mass together and Jesus as the special person for the parish family.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- *Talking about the special people in her/his life and how s/he feels about those people.*
- *Discussing special people in your church community and what they do for your family and what this means to you.*
- *Thinking together about how Jesus as a special person and how you celebrate Mass together.*

R.E. Topic 2: Eucharist - Relating: Meals

Children will be thinking about sharing special meals, going to Mass as part of God's family, preparing for the special meal for the parish family, the story of The Last Supper, The Our Father prayer, Communion time and celebrating with the parish family after Mass.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- *Talking about special family occasions and meals and what they help you celebrate.*
- *Discussing The Last Supper story and its significance and sharing the Our Father prayer.*
- *Thinking together about Communion and how you spend time with your parish family after Mass.*

English: Daily Reading & Phonics Skills

Read Write Inc

Children on the Read Write Inc programme will continue to have daily sessions with their group aimed developing confidence with phonics, reading and writing. Children are assessed regularly to ensure that they are in the right group. If you would like more information about the programme please let us know.





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Guided Reading

All children no longer involved in the Read Write Inc programme will have daily reading activities to boost their levels of confidence and enjoyment as well as their comprehension skills.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Reading your child's reading books with them for a few minutes every day as well as enjoying all sorts of other books and reading materials together.
- You can help your child to read signs and notices when you are out and about so she/he realises reading is everywhere.
- Encouraging your child to write as often as possible whether it is signing cards, making a shopping list, labelling pictures, writing stories or helping you when you are writing.
- Helping your child to form letters correctly. Please ask if you would like more information about this.

English: Basic Skills

All children will benefit from having daily handwriting and spelling practise and regular grammar and punctuation sessions focused on their *individual* needs. Please come and chat about what your child is working on in school.

Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

We will continue to focus on counting to and from 100 but now in tens, twos and fives and starting from different numbers, not just zero or 100. We will also continue to add and subtract numbers to 20 and begin to make sets to multiply and divide. We will also be thinking about halving and doubling.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Continuing to count forwards and backwards to and from different numbers up to 100. Ask questions such as what comes after..., before..., what number is two more than/less than....? Encourage your child to count in 10s, 2s and 5s.
- Making sets from different numbers e.g. 15, 16, 18 etc. What does your child notice about sets of 2, 5 or 4?
- Getting your child to halve and double different numbers e.g. 4 halved is 2 and doubled is 8. You may need to do this a lot of times with counters to help your child fully understand what halving and doubling are.

Theme 1 Introduction: Marvellous Machines

During our first Theme the children will explore different types of machines and what they are used for. They will investigate how the machines work and when they were invented. Watch out for an unusual occurrence or three during this topic! The theme will consist of cross-curricular lessons and separate modules to ensure that everything is covered and so that deep learning can take place.

English: Creative Writing

Children will be writing about machines, both real and ones they create and they may be communicating with some very exciting friends over the term...

Mathematics within the Theme

We will focus on: 2D shapes, weight and position and direction.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Spotting shapes at home or whilst you are out and about. Notice which shapes join together well (tessellate) and how many edges and corners they have. Think about whether the sides are the same or different lengths and what different shapes are called.
- Comparing heavy and light objects, whether your child can lift the object or not and what you use at home to measure weight.
- Thinking about the vocabulary of direction and play games giving your child instructions to move forwards, backwards, turn, go left, right, over, under, behind, next to etc. Remote controlled toys are great for this topic if you have one at home.





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Science

We will be thinking about forces and materials. We will also focus on typical winter weather if/when it occurs.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Talking about pushing, pulling, twisting and spinning objects and what happens to them when you do this. Is it the same if you push gently as it is when you push vigorously?
- Looking for different materials around your home and what they are used for e.g. metal, wood, clay, glass, fabric, plastic etc.
- Using the internet and/or public library to research different materials and what they can be used for.
- Exploring winter weather together, noticing how it feels and looks and the effects it has on people/nature.

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)

This term we will focus on special people and being special to those we love. We will talk about being kind, caring and sharing and think about what makes our classmates special to us.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Discussing the importance of our relationships with family and friends.
- Thinking about why we need the love and care of our friends and family.
- Talking about what makes your child special to you.

Geography/History

We will think about the winter climate. We will also focus on events beyond living memory, particularly linked to our topic of machines and inventions.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Discussing different weather conditions including those shown on the news and those in our everyday lives.
- Talking about the clothes you need to stay warm and dry in winter.
- Investigating inventions and machines through history on the internet or at the library.

Art

In art we will focus observational drawings of machine parts and large 3D models of machines. We will work alone and in pairs and groups to create our work.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Finding interesting machine parts at home to draw or make.
- Finding out more about what different machines look like and how they work.
- Researching the life and work of Leonardo da Vinci

PE

P.E. is on Wednesday afternoon each week. Sessions are led by specialist P.E. coaches. This term they will cover dance and fundamental skills both indoors and out.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Doing lots of physical activity regularly e.g. playing games in the garden, going to the park, swimming lessons.
- By watching different sports on the television or via clips on the internet so that your child can see athletes performing at the highest level.

Music

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury. Our module for this theme is called 'Feel the Pulse' and we will be exploring pulse/rhythm, learning action songs and adding instruments to the beat.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Asking your child to sing songs to you and talk about music lessons. (Music is on Friday each week).

