



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

*Sharing our learning*

## Academic Year 2013-2014

- **Year:** Foundation Stage 2
- **Term:** 2

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Ms C Pugh
- Mrs A Prentice
- Miss S Rodgers

Dear parents and carers,

This is our second overview of the year which builds on a busy start to the year and takes us all the way to Christmas. This document gives you an overview of the things your child(ren) will be learning in school this term. It also include tips for supporting your child(ren) at home.

If you have any questions or if you require any support to help your child(ren) at home please do not hesitate to contact us. We would also like to hear from you if you feel able to support us in any way.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

## R.E. Topic 1: Advent/Christmas

### *Birthdays*

We will help the children to know and understand what a birthday is. We will talk about what it feels like to wait for this special time.

### *Advent*

We will be looking forward to Christmas and the birth of Jesus. We will read the nativity story and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

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

- Talk about why we celebrate birthdays – how it is special for your family
- Talk about advent and what this means to celebrate the birth of Jesus – maybe make and advent wreath
- Talk about why we give and receive presents at Christmas

## EYFS Prime Areas

### Communication & Language, Physical Development & Personal, Social & Emotional Development

The children will continue to develop learning within the Prime Areas. The children are now confident to use the classroom resources and are generally showing independence around most of the school.

We will continue to support the children as they develop friendships in the class and the whole school. Our buddies in Y4 add a positive element to the children's relationships and we will plan events to spend time together.

Communicating effectively with each other remains a strong focus. The children will be encouraged to listen carefully to each other and respond appropriately. Each child has a 'Talk Partner' to help them to develop confidence to do this. Photos, pictures etc will continue to be used to support all learners.





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Our main themes this term are 'Dark/Light' and 'Celebrations'. Throughout the topics the children will be encouraged to ask 'how' and 'why' questions and offer ideas and answers. The children will also be encouraged to talk about their feelings – for example 'How do you feel when it is very dark?'

In December all the children will be taking part in the nativity performance with children from KS1.

We will continue to use the outdoor area. Nearly all the children love to be outside – it is often here where they develop physical skills, imaginative games, and are involved in problem solving activities. Warm clothes will be needed!

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

- Asking 'open-ended' questions (questions where there are many possible answers). For example: I wonder what would happen if.....? or How do you think .....?
- Continue to encourage children to be independent when getting dressed/undressed.

## **EYFS Specific Areas**

### **Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the world, Expressive arts and design**

We will continue to develop literacy skills using the RW1 programme. Usually, the children will be in groups of ten to join in phonics sessions and the children may not always be in the same group. Children will begin to take home books to support their reading.

The children love 'big books' which we often use with the whole group. We will use a selection of books, which will provide opportunities for children to be involved in 'shared reading' rhyming activities, recognising familiar letters etc. Non-fiction books will also be introduced to encourage children to find out about the topic and interests, for example; nocturnal animals. New books will be added to the children's favourite books in the book corner.

Children will be encouraged to write in a variety of ways – writing their name on arrival every morning, using their phonic knowledge to write labels, captions etc. We will also encourage children to write for different purposes in their play – invitations, lists and cards.

We would also like to walk around the local area, looking for 'print in the environment'. We will need parent volunteers to make this possible, so please let us know if you would be available to help.

In mathematics we will continue to recognise and use numbers 1-10 and also beyond 10 – especially related to practical activities within the class. For example; 'Do we have enough biscuits for everyone in the class?' We will be comparing items for size – length and height. We will also introduce positional language (backwards, forwards, above, below etc.) The children will have opportunities to revisit and apply their knowledge of 2D shapes and we will introduce 3D shapes.

Throughout the topics 'Dark/Light' and 'Celebrations' the children will be given chance to explore dark and light and find out new information and facts. The children will be encouraged to use non-fiction books and the internet. We will be introducing 'Bee-bots', torches, 'and ' talking postcards' to encourage the children to use different technology.

We hope the 'Celebration' theme will provide opportunities for children to gain understanding of cultural and religious celebrations during this part of the year. Several children have their birthday this term, so this provides opportunities for children to develop their understanding of a celebration which is meaningful. Role-play opportunities will also be





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developed around this theme.

The children are developing their drawing, painting skills. They also love creating structures with blocks and making models. As Christmas approaches, the children will be given plenty of opportunity to use their ideas and skills by making decorations, collage pictures & printing.

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

- Helping them with letter sounds at home – saying, reading and writing
- Reading stories and looking at non-fiction books
- Writing lists and cards
- Helping children use technology safely at home
- Using activities to explore dark/light – planting bulbs, look for the moon & stars on a clear night, make a 'dark den'

## **EYFS: Characteristics of Learning**

Throughout the year we will be looking at how children develop certain 'characteristics' such as how they engage in their learning, find out, explore and 'have a go'. If they are motivated to learn by being involved, concentrating, keep trying and enjoying achieving what they set out to do.

We also consider whether they are able to develop their own ideas, make links in their learning and the ways they choose to do things, whether they plan, review or change their strategy when approaching a task.

These are all attitudes to learning that children need to become successful learners. Hopefully we will lay the foundations for these young children so they grow their skills and achieve both personally and academically.

## **Music**

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher but we shall also be using musical instruments to accompany poems. We will be learning songs to sing at our nativity concert.

## **P.E.**

### **Topic 1: Dance and Movement**

Children will be learning how to move and use the space safely, listening and responding to music.

### **Topic 2: Gym Work/games**

Children will continue to learn how to move around safely and will initially do some floor work, moving and using their body in different ways to strengthen their physical skills. Apparatus and equipment will be introduced as needed.

## **Assessment**

All assessments throughout Foundation Stage 2 will be done by observational assessment. We will collect photos, written observations as part of our evidence. Please continue to share any 'wow' moments. This can include joining in with a swimming/dance lesson for the first time, dressing independently for the first time etc.

