



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning

Academic Year 2013-2014

- **Year:** Foundation Stage 2
- **Term:** 1

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

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

Dear parents and carers,

At the beginning of Term 6 last year we sent out a curriculum overview to inform you about the different things the children would be learning in school along with suggestions for some of the different ways you could support your child at home. The feedback we received was very positive. Here is the first overview for this new academic year. If you would like further information or you have an interest or expertise in an area being covered please speak to your child's teacher. We very much welcome the involvement of parents and carers. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

R.E. Topic 1: My Family

This will focus on how we are part of a family, whether this be at home or school or as part of the family of the church. It will look at how God knows and loves each and everyone of us.

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

- Talk to your child about why they are special.
- Look at family photos and people to who are special to them.

R.E. Topic 2: God's Family

This will look at how baptism is used to welcome us into God's family and the church and will recap and enhance the topic covered during the first part of this half term on myself.

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

- Talk to them about what it means to be part a family.
- Talk to them about any family baptisms and tell them about when they were baptised or their naming ceremony.

EYFS Prime Areas

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

The EYFS Prime Areas of learning will be the main focus of our teaching and learning this half term. They underpin all aspects of learning in Foundation Stage. The Foundation stage is designed to overlap and compliment all the different areas which make up the curriculum as a whole and hopefully this overview will give you a flavour of how this will work.

Our main theme is 'Getting to Know You' which links well with the R.E topic. We want the children to settle well in our class and become familiar and happy with all the new routines. During the next few weeks we will be helping the children to establish simple class rules, which will support positive learning behaviours. The staff will use photos, pictures and gestures with language to support all learners. Children will learn to listen to each other in small groups





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and sometimes with the whole class. We want to encourage the children to speak confidently to each other and to familiar adults. The children will be expected to care for each other and our environment. The staff will help the children to keep the classroom tidy and look after the resources. Independence and the child's unique personality will always be valued.

Moving safely around the school environment is important. The children will be supported to keep safe and develop appropriate hygiene routines.

Children will use the outdoor environment every day, so they will need a coat as the weather becomes cooler. The children develop many physical skills and social skills when using the outdoor environment. Already children are showing good turn-taking and co-operative skills.

P.E. sessions will be on Monday and Friday. One session will be 'gym' type activities and the other will be movement and dance. During this term the children the children getting used to listening to instructions and responding appropriately in the hall. They will also get used to dressing and undressing independently – all good practice for developing physical skills!

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

- Give your child time to think and respond if you ask them a question
- Encourage your child to dress and undress independently. Help them by setting out their clothes in the correct order.
- Using a knife and fork to eat meals.

EYFS Specific Areas

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

We will be using the school 'Read, Write Inc.' programme to deliver the sound work (phonics) which will help the children to begin to read and write with more confidence. During the first term we will cover different letter(s) sounds each day and will be sending home sheets with the daily sounds on them so they can practice at home. We will be running some sessions for families on phonics and reading during the first term and will send details out later.

In mathematics we will be looking at counting and recognising numerals 1-10, sequencing these numbers, ordering items by length and weight. We will look at the language used to describe 2D and 3D shapes and explore and create patterns. The curriculum places a lot of emphasis on mathematical language so much of the work will be done orally with little formal recording.

Our topic will support the children's learning about people and communities, helping them to understand that people are both different and similar and what make us unique. In expressive arts we will be exploring colour, using different media and materials and selecting and using tools safely and appropriately.

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

- Helping them with letter sounds at home.
- Using everyday opportunities such as cooking, baking and setting the table to support their understanding of mathematics.
- Talking to them about things that they find in their environment, using construction sets, helping them to make things using everyday objects and how to use scissors and other tools effectively.





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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 and singing songs throughout the week. We will be singing many of the songs your children will know - nursery rhymes and other familiar songs. We will also learn some new songs which will link with festivals and topics.

P.E.

Topic 1: Dance and Movement

Children will be learning how to move and use the space safely, listening and responding to music and partner work such as mirroring.

Topic 2: Gym Work

Again children will learn how to move around safely and will initially do some floor work, moving and using their bodies in different ways to strengthen their physical skills. We will introduce apparatus over time.

Assessment

All assessments throughout Foundation Stage 2 will be done by observational assessment. We will collect photos, written observations as part of our evidence. We also hope you will contribute to your child's learning journey by adding photos and information from home. We will share more information with you as the term progresses.

