

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



Academic Year 2019-20

- **Year:** FS2
- **Term:** 2

Your Child's Teaching & Learning Team:

- Mrs H Darken
- Mrs A Prentice
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Dear Parents and Carers,

This is our second curriculum overview of the year and its purpose is to let you know what the children will be learning in the weeks leading up to Christmas. We also offer suggestions on different ways you can support your children at home.

Homework is important and should always be attempted by children on their own. You should not worry if your child does not understand a concept or is unable to complete a particular task that has been set for homework - as a key purpose of homework is to see what children know/don't know and what they can and cannot do on their own. We encourage our children to be resilient and remind them constantly that learning is fun but can be challenging sometimes - so making mistakes and productive struggle are both perfectly normal parts of the learning process. We also remind them that we are all there to offer help and support.

If children struggle with a homework task, please offer reassurance and encouragement, and when they have done all they can please tell them that it is ok to stop. We do not want to cause them unnecessary stress nor do we want anyone else to do their homework for them. Please let us know via a note; an email; by speaking to us directly; or leaving a message with a colleague in the School Office. We will be understanding and then follow-up issues quickly in a calm and positive way, so that children feel reassured rather than anxious.

Ways of teaching and learning change constantly which is why we are **always** happy to explain them either on a one-to-one basis or in workshops so that parent/carer feel more confident helping their children at home. If you would like help and advice on a one-to-one basis please speak to one of us in confidence.

As always, if you can support us because you can demonstrate or share a particular skill; specialist knowledge; a real-life experience; artefacts; or useful contacts – or if you can support us by volunteering to help on an educational visit or with activities in class, then please let us know. All offers are welcomed and appreciated greatly!

Yours sincerely,

J. Harcourt
Headteacher

Term 2 Learning Value: Honesty

Our Learning Value is 'Honesty'. Honesty is defined as a person who does not do things that are judged to be wrong, morally. Honesty is about speaking and acting truthfully. Honesty is acting with integrity.

If someone breaks a rule or law or hides their intentions and actions because they know it is wrong, then they are being dishonest.

Honesty is speaking the truth, it is not:

- saying what is definitely untrue
- saying what might be untrue
- making things up in order to hide the truth

Honesty is what you say and how you act toward others. It is also about being honest and treating yourself in the same way.

Being honest with yourself means knowing and understanding why you act in certain ways; whether you speak the truth to yourself and act in a way that means you are being true to yourself, your values and what you believe.



RE

Information about our Term 1 RE curriculum is in the 'Come and See' letter accompanying this overview.

Our Theme this Term

This term our theme is called 'Light and Dark'. We will think about night time and consider some of the different jobs people might do during the night. We will also think about sources of light how they are powered.

We will learn about nocturnal animals and read the book 'Owl Babies' to help develop our understanding. We will also incorporate *celebrations* into our theme as we learn about Diwali, fireworks, Hannukah and Advent.

Throughout their learning the children will be encouraged to ask a range of different 'how' and 'why' questions as well as sharing their ideas and offering their own answers.

Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ light
- ✓ dark
- ✓ nocturnal
- ✓ festival
- ✓ celebrate

EYFS Prime Areas

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

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

We will continue to support the children as they develop friendships within class and with children across the whole school. Our Y4 buddies continue to add a positive element to the children's relationships and more events and opportunities for them to spend time together will be planned.

Communicating effectively with each other remains a strong focus for us. The children will be encouraged to listen carefully and actively to each other, and then respond appropriately. Children will continue to work with a 'Talk Partner' to help them develop confidence to do this.

In December all the children will take part in a Christmas nativity and each will be given an opportunity to join in with singing, dancing or speaking some lines.

We will continue to use the outdoor area as the weather changes. Nearly all the children love to be outside and it is often in the outside where they develop physical skills, imaginative games and engage in different problem-solving activities and challenges. Warm clothes and wellington boots are all they need!

We will consider ways to keep safe and warm during wet and icy weather and talk about the different clothes we wear as we think about how the weather affects our bodies.

As part of 'Be safe, Be happy Week' we will think about how to keep healthy by completing sports activities; reduce the chances of spreading germs; and understand the importance of good nutrition and hygiene. We will also learn about safety online and the different ways we can be a good friend and show respect to others.

Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ listen
- ✓ share
- ✓ respect
- ✓ independence
- ✓ healthy

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

- ✓ asking 'open-ended' questions (questions where there are many possible answers)



- o for example: 'I wonder what would happen if.....?' or 'How do you think?'
- ✓ continuing to encourage children to be independent when getting dressed/undressed
- ✓ helping children to learn to put on and do up their own coats and do it up.

EYFS Specific Areas

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

We will continue to develop literacy skills using the RWInc. programme. Children will begin to take home books to support their reading and will be read with frequently in school.

We will learn about nocturnal animals after reading Owl Babies together and consider the different jobs that people might do through the night.

We will then explore non-fiction texts to think more about Diwali, Hannukah and how Christmas is celebrated all over the world.

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

During the lead up to Christmas the children will be reading and writing the Christmas story. We will use drama to think about and explore the feelings of the different people involved in the story. The children will also have an opportunity to bring home the travelling nativity set. Please encourage them to tell you the story. This will be a special time for celebration. If you have any books or resources to support the children in telling the Christmas Story and wouldn't mind sharing, please bring them in to school.

In Mathematics we will continue working to recognise and use numbers 1 to 10 and then beyond 10, especially related to practical activities within class. We will compare items with differing capacity; think about whether containers are full or empty; and order them.

We will also use positional language e.g. backwards, forwards, above, below etc. in order to program a 'roamer'. The children will also have plenty of opportunities to revisit and apply their knowledge of 2D shapes.

We will start using the language of *time* and *money* in practical ways becoming more familiar with these ideas in relation to real life.

Throughout the topic the children will be given chances to investigate light, cold and dark in order to learn new information and facts. We will think about the weather and seasons as the days get darker and consider how we can keep ourselves safe.

Across their learning children will be encouraged to use non-fiction books and the internet. We will be introduce '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 a wider understanding of cultural and religious celebrations during this special part of the year. Several children also have their birthdays this term, so this also provides opportunities for the children to develop their understanding of a celebration which is meaningful to them. Role-play opportunities will be 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. The children will be exploring dance and music linked to fireworks and light

Be Safe - Be Happy Week



We will experience Be Safe – Be Happy Week. Across school the children will explore a range of different issues including: bullying, online safety, stranger danger, hygiene control and safeguarding.

Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ diagram



- ✓ formation (letter)
- ✓ nocturnal
- ✓ celebration
- ✓ Diwali
- ✓ Hannakah
- ✓ Advent

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

- ✓ helping them with letter sounds at home
- ✓ reading everyday
- ✓ telling oral stories
- ✓ using everyday opportunities such as cooking, baking and setting the table to support their understanding of mathematics
- ✓ recognising numbers everywhere.
- ✓ playing simple games with numbers
- ✓ 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

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 information; explore; and 'have a go'. If they are motivated to learn they will:

- ✓ be involved and engaged
- ✓ maintaining concentration
- ✓ be resilient
- ✓ enjoy developing skills and knowledge
- ✓ enjoy achieving what they set out to do

We will also consider whether they are able to develop their own ideas and make links in their learning and monitor the ways they choose to do things; whether they plan an approach or dive in or whether they review or change their strategy when approaching a task. We will talk about being resilient, resourceful, reciprocal and reflective linking these characteristics to media characters.

These are all attitudes to learning that children need in order to become successful learners in the long-term. We aim to lay the foundations now so they grow their skills and achieve both personally and academically.

Music

This term we will be learning a variety of songs to sing at our nativity concert. Children will also get the opportunity to use some of the instruments to accompany these songs. In addition, we will be using music to represent snow.

PE

Topic 1: Dance

Children will be taught to use movement to respond to music. They will then be asked to use their bodies in different ways to create shapes; they will then create patterns of movement to make a sequence. Children will be encouraged to know the benefits of exercise and the impact on their bodies.

Topic 2: Ball skills /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. Ball skills will be taught so that children have the foundations skills needed to play ball games in the future.

Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ movement



- ✓ *sequence*
- ✓ *healthy*
- ✓ *synchronicity*
- ✓ *resilience*

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

- ✓ *continuing to encourage your child to be independent when getting dressed /undressed and being responsible for their own belongings*
- ✓ *playing games in your garden or in the park, particularly running, chasing and ball skills*

Assessment

Throughout Foundation Stage 2 (FS2) judgements about pupils' progress, achievement, strengths and development areas will be made primarily through observational assessment. We will collect photographs and written observations as part of our evidence. Please therefore continue to share any 'wow' moments that your children experience when they are out of school. This can include joining in with a swimming/dance lesson for the first time, dressing independently for the first time etc. Thank you.

