

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



Academic Year 2020-21

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

Your Child's Teaching & Learning Team:

- Mrs H Darken
- Mrs E Walton
- Mrs R D'Roza

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 continues to be a very important aspect of the support we are offering all our children – especially those still working hard to catch up on lost learning as a result of the first lockdown.

It is for this reason that all homework should be attempted by children on their own. Please not worry if your child does not understand a concept or is unable to complete a particular task that has been set - as a key purpose of homework is to see what children actually remember, know and don't know. It is important for us to understand what they can do on their own.

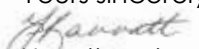
Our approach is always to be encouraging and reassuring, in order to affirm our children and help them to feel confident. We do this because confidence builds resilience, and resilience is a trait that successful learners have. We therefore remind our children constantly that learning is fun even though it can also be challenging sometimes. So children making mistakes and developing knowledge and understanding through productive struggle are both perfectly normal parts of the learning process. We, of course, remind them constantly that we are all there to offer help and support too – so they are not worried.

With this in mind, if your 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 our children unnecessary stress nor do we want anyone else to do their homework for them. Simply let us know (via a note/email) what your child struggled with and what they could do, so we can follow it up. Naturally, we will be understanding so that your children always feel reassured and happy.

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 email or arrange a telephone meeting.

Yours sincerely,


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 2 RE curriculum is in the 'Come and See' letter accompanying this overview. It is a continuation of the work covered in the RE letter sent out with the Term 1 overview.

Our Theme this Term

This term we will be thinking about the theme of 'Light and Dark'. We will consider night time and 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. We will learn about 'Celebrations' in to our theme. We will learn about Diwali, fireworks, Hanukkah and Advent. Throughout, the children will be encouraged to ask 'how' and 'why' questions and offer ideas and 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 are now confident to use the classroom resources and are showing good independence around the school.

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

Communicating effectively with each other remains a strong focus. The children will be encouraged to listen carefully to one another and respond appropriately. Children have a 'Talk Partner' to help them do this.

In December all the children will be taking part in a Christmas showcase and all children will be given an opportunity to take part by playing a musical instrument dancing or speaking lines.

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 and wellington boots will be needed!

We will consider ways to keep safe and warm during wet and icy weather. Talking about different clothes and how the weather affects our bodies. As part of 'Be safe, Be Happy Week' we will think about how to keep healthy. We will explore how we can prevent spreading germs and understand the importance of good nutrition and hygiene. We will learn about online safety and ways to be a good friend.

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)
 - 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 our comprehensive Read Write Inc. phonics programme. Children will begin to take home books to support their reading and will be read with frequently in school.

We will read 'Owl Babies' to learn about nocturnal animals and consider jobs people do at night.

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

Children will be encouraged to write in a variety of 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 be using drama to think about the feelings of the different people.

In mathematics we will continue to recognise and use numbers 1-10 and also beyond 10 (especially related to practical activities). The children will have opportunities to revisit and apply their knowledge of 2D shapes.

Through the topic the children will be given chance to explore light, cold and dark and learn new information and facts. We think about the weather as the days get darker and how we can keep ourselves safe.

Across their learning 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.

The 'Celebration' theme will provide opportunities for children to gain an understanding of cultural and religious celebrations at this time of year. Children's birthdays will also provide opportunities for children to develop an understanding of what celebrations are. Role-play will be also be developed around this theme.

The children will continue to develop drawing, painting skills as well as model-making. The children will explore dance and music linked to fireworks and light and as Christmas approaches, the children will be given opportunities to use their ideas and skills to create decorations, collage pictures and printing.

Be Safe Be Happy Week 2020

After the holiday it will be 'Be Safe Be happy Week 2020'. Across school the children will explore a range of different issues including: bullying, e-safety, stranger danger, hygiene control and safeguarding.



Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ diagraph
- ✓ word/sentence
- ✓ letter formation (writing)
- ✓ nocturnal
- ✓ celebration
- ✓ Diwali/Hanukkah/Advent

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

- ✓ helping them with letter sounds at home
- ✓ reading together every day and sharing oral stories
- ✓ using opportunities such as cooking, baking and setting the table to support mathematical understanding
- ✓ looking for and recognising numbers everywhere (signs, packets, front doors, on television, in books, etc.)



- ✓ 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

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.

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 to become successful learners. Hopefully we will lay the foundations so they grow their skills and achieve both personally and academically.

Music

This term we will learn a variety of songs, which we will hopefully be able to sing for our nativity concert in line with safety regulations. Children will also get the opportunity to use some of the instruments to accompany the songs. In addition, we will be exploring how we can use music to represent different things e.g. snow.

PE

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.

Ball skills/Games

The 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:
 - getting dressed/undressed
 - being responsible for their own belongings
- ✓ playing games in your garden or in the park, particularly running, chasing and ball skills

Assessment

All assessments throughout Foundation Stage 2 will be done through 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.

