

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



## Academic Year 2020-21

- Year: 4
- Term: 1

## Your Child's Teaching & Learning Team:

- Mr A Broadhead
- Miss T Birch
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NON-URGENT CONTACT: [year4@st-johnfisher.org](mailto:year4@st-johnfisher.org)

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first curriculum overview of our new school year. Its purpose is to let you know what your children will be learning during the first term. We will also offer suggestions for supporting your children at home.

New learning can be fragile which is why it important to give our children the right kind of support in school and at home. If we get it right our children will feel positive and confident as they learn and make progress.

We do set homework to support and consolidate their new learning and to encourage the children. Our expectations regarding homework will therefore also be shared in this overview.

Children are always encouraged in school, and all we ask is that they do their best both in school and at home. We understand that children learn best when they are confident; they are most confident when they are happy; and they are most happy when they feel loved, supported and encouraged.

Clearly, it is important that homework is attempted by children on their own. If children do not understand something **they should never worry**. This means that the homework has done its job. If this happens then simply offer reassurance and encourage your children to do as much as they can. This will really help us to understand what they actually remember and know and where any gaps are, so that the right support can be offered.

If children have genuinely done their best we will *always* be proud of them, whatever they manage to do. We never want our children panicking or feeling anxious. If your child is stuck then simply notify staff in person, via the class email or by adding a note to the homework. Tell us what they remembered, could do and what they struggled with, so that we can follow it up with lots and lots of reassurance and the right kind of support.

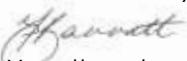
With this in mind, please avoid the temptation to 'over-help' your children with homework tasks. This could end up masking important issues and delay children getting the help they need. Just offer encouragement and keep telling them that everyone at school will understand and will help and support them.

We know that ways of teaching and learning do change over time and so we are **always** happy to explain our approach if you are not sure and have questions. Please just ask. Children can find it more confusing if parents/carers try to show them what they remember being taught at school, especially if this is very different.

As always please contact us if you can offer support with any aspect of the curriculum overview perhaps because you have particular skills, knowledge or experiences, artefacts, useful contacts or you would like to volunteer to help us on an educational visit (subject to COVID guidance).

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

  
Headteacher



## TERM 1 LEARNING VALUE

Our value for this term is '**Determination**'. Being determined is having the ability to keep going, even when there are setbacks. It's accepting that things don't always work out the way you expect them to, but continuing to set new goals that help you to grow as a person. Believing in yourself, being patient, and being the best that you can be are all important parts of determination!



*What does determination look like to you?*

- ✓ you can say "Yes I can!"
- ✓ you can set yourself your own challenging goals
- ✓ you have confidence in yourself to keep going, even when things get tough

*If you have determination what do you realise?*

- ✓ never, ever, ever give up
- ✓ you can reach your potential if you believe in yourself
- ✓ confidence gives you the strength to carry on when it's really hard

*How can you can show determination?*

- ✓ having a positive and determined mind-set
- ✓ setting challenging goals and having the courage to try
- ✓ be a superhero
- ✓ say "Yes I can!"

## HOMEWORK

Homework is given out on Friday and it is expected back by the following Friday. It will consist of:

- a mix of 'MyMaths' online homework ([www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)) and other Mathematics homework
- 'Bug Club' for reading homework
- spellings for a weekly spelling quiz each week (please work hard on these to meet new standards)
- cross-curricular theme-related homework at various other times
- times tables

## RE

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

## ENGLISH

### **Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar & Handwriting**

All children will benefit from having daily handwriting and spelling practise, and regular grammar and punctuation sessions focused on meeting their individual needs. Children all have individual targets for writing, such as including specific punctuation or using descriptive language and these will be focussed on throughout all their writing.

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

- ✓ supporting them to learn their weekly spellings
- ✓ looking at synonyms and antonyms.
- ✓ talking about their targets for writing

### **Reciprocal reading**

All children will have daily access to reading resources and twice each week will be completing reciprocal reading which will help to improve their confidence, enjoyment and develop comprehension skills.



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

- ✓ reading their own books with them for a few minutes every day
- ✓ choosing another book by the same author, to read with your child
- ✓ encouraging your child to read a wider range of more challenging books, to widen their experience
- ✓ discussing their personal targets for reading (as shared on their record sheet)

## MATHEMATICS

This term we will be focusing on the new Y4 mathematics. We will be looking at this term:

- mental calculation strategies
- place value
- Formal calculation methods

## Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ columns
- ✓ operations
- ✓ digits
- ✓ symbols
- ✓ calculations

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

- ✓ adding, subtracting and multiplying two digit numbers
- ✓ talking about numbers and what each digit means in numbers to 100 000

## HUMANITIES

Our focus will be the timeline and society of the Anglo-Saxons and the Scots. We will learn about their daily lives and how they changed Britain. The children will be investigate Anglo-Saxon gods and goddesses.

## Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ tanner
- ✓ angles
- ✓ Woden
- ✓ weaving
- ✓ Saxon

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

- ✓ researching the Anglo –Saxon settlement of England and what was happening in Scotland at the time
- ✓ evaluating the different ways that we find out about the past and how we can use historical evidence

## PE

The children will benefit from a programme called Real PE. This term the children will develop personal skills with a focus on physical co-ordination and balance linked to Basketball.

## Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ agility
- ✓ balance
- ✓ coordination
- ✓ catching
- ✓ bouncing
- ✓ throwing



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

- ✓ encouraging your child to demonstrate what they have done in their REAL PE lesson
- ✓ encouraging your child to practice catching and throwing.
- ✓ playing games in your garden or in the park, particularly running, chasing and ball skills

## SCIENCE

This term our Science will be focused on Animals including humans. We will be:

- describing the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans
- identifying the different types of teeth in humans and their functions
- constructing and interpreting different food chains, identifying producers, prey and predators

**Key words we will be using are:**

- ✓ producer
- ✓ consumer
- ✓ digestion
- ✓ molar
- ✓ canines

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

- ✓ talking about what producers, predators and prey, giving examples
- ✓ investigating and discussing the ways the body works
- ✓ researching different animals' digestive systems and teeth

## MUSIC

This term we will be playing percussion instruments. We will focus on using 'Boom Whackers' as we play a range of songs, both modern and classic. We will learn to develop chords and develop our own piece of music that will be performed.

**Key words we will be using are:**

- ✓ rhythm/tempo
- ✓ pitch
- ✓ chords
- ✓ percussion



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

- ✓ encouraging your child to practise making improvements to their work
- ✓ listening to music with a repeated pattern compare tempos

## ART AND DT

Linked to our Humanities study, the children will be learning about the learning about Anglo-Saxon artefacts and designing and creating their own versions. They will also evaluate and adapt their techniques as part of a continuous cycle of learning.

**Key words we will be using are:**

- ✓ patterns
- ✓ textures
- ✓ depths
- ✓ shades



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

- ✓ discussing how a variety of objects could be made.
- ✓ encouraging your child to attempt to design and/or make models.

## FRENCH

The lessons will be delivered by a specialist French teacher from the highly regarded Primary Languages Network. There will be a period of assessment during which the children will revisit previous learning in order to prepare for the Y4 curriculum in the year ahead.



## COMPUTING

This term our focus is 'The Internet'. Learners will apply their knowledge and understanding of networks, to appreciate the internet as a network of networks which need to be kept secure. They will learn that the World Wide Web is part of the internet, and will be given opportunities to explore the World Wide Web for themselves in order to learn about who owns content and what they can access, add, and create. Finally, they will evaluate online content to decide how honest, accurate, or reliable it is, and understand the consequences of false information.

## Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ networks
- ✓ sharing information
- ✓ WWW (World Wide Web)
- ✓ internet

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

- ✓ Look at the following website to help you child stay safe online
- ✓ <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

## PSHCE

We will be learning about the caring school, feelings, friends and family, and also appreciating differences. The children will be learning to develop, consider and apply inter-person skills to help teamwork. They will also be evaluating and adapting their techniques as part of continuous cycle of learning.

## Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ friendship
- ✓ teamwork
- ✓ caring
- ✓ kindness

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

- ✓ discussing how friendships change and develop as you grow up.
- ✓ encouraging your child to attempt to talk to other children in the school other than their friends

