



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



Academic Year 2016-2017

- **Year:** 4
- **Term:** 1

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mr A Broadhead
- Mrs C Raynes
- Miss A May
- Miss J Pendlebury

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first curriculum overview of our new school year. The purpose of the overview is to let you know what your children will be learning during Term 1 and suggest some ways in which you can offer support at home.

As new learning can be very fragile it is important that all children receive the right kind of support in school and at home. This is why we set homework. The aim is to support and extend new learning. Our expectations regarding homework are therefore shared in the overview along with suggestions for things you can do at home.

It is very important that all homework is at least attempted at home. If you have a child who does not understand something that has been set for homework, please do **not** worry, the homework has done its job. Please reassure your child and ask him/her to do as much as they can. This will help us understand the issue(s) and identify gaps in knowledge.

Try not to fall into the trap of doing it for them, or panic that it will reflect badly on your child or on you as parents/carers. The key thing is that the homework is attempted seriously and your child does his/her best.

As soon as you can just notify your child's teacher (in person or by adding a note to the homework that has been attempted) so that the issue can be followed up – and most importantly – so your child can receive all the reassurance and encouragement that they need from us in order to move forward.

We also know that methods of teaching and learning change constantly which is why we are **always** happy to explain them to you if you have a question or are not sure about something. Sometimes it can be confusing for a child when well-meaning parents/carers try to teach the way they learned because it might undo what has been taught in class.

To help you help us we are **always** happy to arrange parent/carer workshops or even provide one-to-one support to parents/carers who would like this. Please speak to us in confidence if you would like some help.

As always, if you can support us because you have a skill, specialist knowledge; a real-life experience, artefacts, or useful contacts to share – or if you can help with an educational visit or with activities in class then please speak to your child's teacher(s). All offers of help are welcomed and appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

Homework

Children will be given homework on a Tuesday and this will be expected back in by the following Tuesday. The homework will be:

- 'My Maths' homework differentiated at the correct level for your child
- www.activelearnprimary.co.uk (new website for 'Bug Club') for reading homework
- Spellings in readiness for a weekly spelling quiz
- cross-curricular theme-related homework at various other times



The Study Hub

The daily lunchtime 'Study Hub' provides pupils with an opportunity to practise/embed new skills learned in class, do research, read, access online learning tools or complete homework. They will have supervised access to our resources and the support of Mrs Raynes if they need it. All are welcome.

RE

Information about the RE curriculum for Terms 1 and 2 is included in the 'Come and See' letter sent out with this overview.

English: Basic Skills – Reading, Phonics, Spelling and Handwriting

Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar & Handwriting

All children benefit from having regular handwriting and spelling practise and regular grammar and punctuation sessions focused on meeting their *individual* needs.

Guided Reading

All children will have daily reading activities to boost their levels of confidence and enjoyment as well as their comprehension skills.

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

- ✓ reading your child's reading books with them for a few minutes every day as well as enjoying all sorts of other books and reading materials together.
- ✓ encouraging your child to read more challenging texts/different genres to what they are used to in order to widen their reading experience.

Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

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

- mental calculation strategies
- place value
- more formal calculation methods

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

Theme 2: 'Whole New World'

Our main curriculum topic this term will be focussed on Romans linking to our visit. All of our art, geography, D.T. and science will be covered through this topic.

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

- researching invaders to Britain in general, and the Romans specifically
- discussing the different ways that we find out about the past and how we can use historical evidence
- making sure that you are aware of what children are viewing or engaging with online and talking to them about staying safe

English: Creative Writing within the Theme

We will focus on setting description, poetry and non-chronological reports during this theme. We will be reading stories, non-chronological reports and creating character descriptions.

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

- ✓ reading and writing story settings
- ✓ describing creatures, including lots of adventurous adjectives and similes
- ✓ looking at how non-chronological reports are presented and organised
- ✓ reading non-chronological reports

Mathematics within the Theme

We will focus on:

- 2D shape
- measurement (length - in particular distances)
- time



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

- ✓ *revising the names and properties of 2D shapes*
- ✓ *measure the distance from a place to a given point using a variety of equipment, e.g. tape measure*
- ✓ *timing how long the Roman Empire lasted*

Geography within the Theme

We will be learning about historical maps and how the Romans used them to identify places in their empire.

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

- ✓ *looking at various maps comparing now to Roman times*

Science within the Theme

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 simple functions
- constructing and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey

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

- ✓ *talking about what producers, predators and prey, giving examples*
- ✓ *discussing ways the body works*
- ✓ *carrying out research about different animals' digestive systems and teeth*

Music

Music is led by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher. In the 'Play It Again' unit, children will be:

- Exploring rhythmic patterns
- Recognising repeated rhythmic patterns
- Performing a repeated pattern to a steady pulse
- Performing with an awareness of different parts
- Inventing lyrics to fit a set rhythm pattern
- Making improvements to their work

Computing

In the 'Zoologists' unit we aim to enable the children to:

- Sort and classify a group of items by answering questions
- Collect data using tally charts
- Use simple charting software to produce pictograms and other basic charts
- Take, edit and enhance photographs
- Record information on a digital map

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

- ✓ *creating tally charts for various things at home, e.g- colour of cars going past your house in half an hour*

PE

This term the children will focus on developing the important core multi-skills that underpin all sporting activity, as well as our 'REAL PE' challenges.

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

- ✓ *asking them about their lessons and what they have learned and practising the skills learned in school.*
- ✓ *homework from these sessions may be set to help develop skills further.*

French

We will be recapping all the French we have done so far including days of the week and months of the year as well as colours. We will also be learning the names of parts of the face and other body parts along with words to describe some of these.



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

- exploring the website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/french/> and listening to how you say different vocabulary
- asking your child to teach you how to say parts of the body
- singing 'head, shoulders, knees and toes' in French