



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



Academic Year 2016-2017

- **Year:** 6
- **Term:** 2

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mr I Smith
- Mrs S Hawley
- Miss J Pendlebury
- Miss R D'Roza

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the second curriculum overview of our school year. The purpose of the overview is to let you know what your children will be learning this Term 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 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

Homework is given each Friday and will be expected back in by the following Thursday. It will consist of:

- 'MyMaths' online maths homework (www.mymaths.co.uk)
- 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 2 was included in the 'Come and See' letter sent out last term.

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 in order to widen their reading experience

Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

We will focus on arithmetic Methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division as well as the addition, subtraction and multiplication of fractions

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

- ✓ practising and testing times tables, a key part of the new SATs and will give your child an advantage
- ✓ giving your child addition and subtraction problems to solve – 'How many more do we need to make...'

Theme 1: 'A Whole New World'

The children will continue with our work based on Michael Morpurgo's *Kensuke's Kingdom*. As part of this they will be investigate and study mountains and ranges around the world and their environment.

The children will appreciate what it may be like to be ship wrecked on a deserted island through the novel *Kensuke's Kingdom*. They will learn more about the different countries and continents around the world which are visited in the book.

In the mountains topic we will be looking at the differences between mountains and the area that they live in. We will research different mountains of the world and what it may be like to live near these geological structures. The children will discover information relating to the first ascent of Everest and what this would have been like for the climbers involved.

Be Safe - Be Happy Week

This term we will have 'Be Safe – Be happy Week' and across school children will explore a range of different issues including: bullying, fire safety, road safety, e-safety, 'stranger-danger', basic first aid and safeguarding issues.



English: Creative Writing within the Theme

We will focus on writing linked to our book study novel *Kensuke's Kingdom*, the famous Christmas truce of 1914, 'Be Safe Be Happy Week', and Charles Dickens' famous novel, 'A Christmas Carol'.

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

- ✓ reading and writing story powerful settings
- ✓ using describing words and similes when you speak at home (make it a funny game)
- ✓ looking at writing in magazines, online, in letters etc and looking at how it is structured in each case
- ✓ reading stories and speculating on the thoughts/feelings of characters and the authors' approaches

Mathematics within the Theme

We will focus on 3D shape, the measurement of weight and length and time

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

- ✓ revising the names and properties (features) of 2D and 3D shapes
- ✓ measure the distance from an object to a given point using a variety of equipment, e.g. tape measure
- ✓ timing how long it takes for an ice cube to melt



Geography within the Theme

We will be learning about mountains and how they form. We will be looking at the different features of mountains and will be undertaking a visit to Mam Tor in Derbyshire to experience what it is like to 'get up high' in the countryside.

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

- ✓ looking at various different mountains around the world
- ✓ Investigating local mountains and high places

Science within the Theme

Animals Including Humans

We will explore the human body, recapping what the children already know about the skeleton, muscles and the digestive system. We will learn about the circulatory system and functions of the heart, lungs and blood vessels.

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

- ✓ talking about what a healthy lifestyle is and how to keep your body healthy
- ✓ discussing what they do to keep healthy (can they do more to stay healthy? How?)
- ✓ exploring <http://www.childrensuniversity.manchester.ac.uk/interactives/science/bodyandmedicine/> and seeing how many bone names you can learn for their interactive quiz

Music

Your child will be learning a variety of Christmas songs and traditional carols in preparation of our KS2 carol service on Friday 16th December at 2pm at church. Some children will also have the opportunity to add instrumental accompaniments to these carols.

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

- ✓ asking your child to sing these songs to you and talk about music lessons. (Music is on Friday each week)

PE

This term the children will focus on developing the important core multi-skills that underpin all sporting activity, as well as undertaking a unit of work on Basketball.

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

- ✓ asking them about their lessons and what they have learned
- ✓ practising the skills learned in school

French

We will continue to learn vocabulary related to the family and pets. We will start using words to describe them and practise short conversations talking about ourselves and our favourite things. During Advent we will learn some key vocabulary from the nativity story.

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

- ✓ exploring the website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/french/>
- ✓ finding out the name of your favourite animals in French
- ✓ playing a game where you guess the animal from the adjectives used
- ✓ finding out a French Christmas tradition
- ✓ labelling a copy of a family photograph with French family names (Mum in French etc.)