



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

*Sharing our learning*



## Academic Year 2014-2015

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

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mrs D Davies
- Mrs J Dewsnap
- Mrs L Miller
- Miss J Pendlebury

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first curriculum overview of the new school year. The purpose of the overview is to let you know what the children will be learning this term and set out some of the ways in which you can support them at home.

New learning is fragile and needs time to embed so that it is not lost. It is important that children receive the right kind of support in school and at home. This is why we set homework tasks with the aim of supporting and extending your child's new learning. Expectations regarding homework are therefore also shared in the overview along with suggestions for supporting children 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 set for homework, then the homework has done its job. Please ask your child to do as much as he/she can honestly manage, offer reassurance and notify the relevant teacher the next day who will then follow it up with all the help and encouragement that that your child requires. Please do not force your child to carry on if he/she really does not understand, as this can be negative.

We know that methods of teaching and learning change over the years and so we are **always** happy to explain them to you if you have a question or are not sure about something. We are also happy to arrange parent/carer workshops or even support you on a one-to-one basis if you would find this helpful. Please speak to your child's teacher in confidence if you would like some support.

During our first term the children start a new theme called 'The Way We Were'. If you can support us because you have a skill, specialist knowledge; a real-life experiences to share; or useful contacts, please speak to your child's teacher. All offers of help are welcomed and appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

## Homework

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

- 'Big Maths' review homework differentiated at the correct level for your child
- 'Bug Club' for reading homework
- Spellings in readiness for a weekly spelling quiz
- cross-curricular theme-related homework at various other times

There is a daily Homework Club at lunchtime from 12.30pm in the Year 6 classroom which is run by Miss Hardman supported by some of the older children. At the club pupils can ask for support from her or her team of helpers. Pupils attending the club also have access to the library, computers and other technology as well resources not necessarily available at home. Every child is welcome to attend.

## RE

For information on the RE curriculum please see the attached 'Come and See' letter.



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

### **Read Write Inc. Sessions**

Children on the Read Write Inc. programme will continue to have daily sessions with their group aimed at developing confidence with phonics, reading and writing. Children are assessed regularly to ensure that they are in the right group. If you would like more information about the programme please let us know.

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

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

### **Guided Reading**

All children no longer involved in the Read Write Inc programme 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.*
- *Looking at environmental print.*

## Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

This term we will focus on:

1. Counting to 100, forwards and backwards and counting in 10s, 2s and 5s.
2. Reading and writing numbers to 20.
3. Addition and subtraction within 20.
4. Reading, writing and understanding mathematical statements including '+', '-', and '='

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

- *counting to 100 (forwards and backwards)*
- *answering questions such as 'What is one more/less than xx?' or 'What is two more/two less than xx?'*
- *Using addition and subtraction as part of your everyday routines, e.g. 'if we have 6 biscuits and we eat 3 of them how many will be left?'*

## Theme 1- The way we were

As we start our whole-school curriculum the children in Year 1 will start by looking at the world at the time of the dinosaurs and how the first pre-historic people lived. We will learn all about what the dinosaurs ate and make comparisons with familiar present day animals. We will look at the pre-historic landscape including volcanoes and compare this to the landscape of our local environment.

The children will also undertake an international week the week commencing 7<sup>th</sup> September. Year 1 will be looking at Australasia focusing on traditional stories, dance, music and paintings.

## English: Creative Writing within the Theme

During this term we will be looking at a selection of fiction and non-fiction texts based around dinosaurs, volcanoes and pre-historic folk. There will be lots of opportunity for independent writing based on your child's individual interests and the stories and non-fiction texts we have been looking at. We will also focus on the children creating their own stories.

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

- *reading and sharing stories and books*
- *encouraging your child to act out stories, perhaps with older siblings or with friends*

## Science within the Theme

Throughout the term we will be looking at seasonal changes and spend time learning to identify some common plants and animals local to our environment.



**You can support your child's learning with science this term at home by:**

- *drawing attention to features of the weather and the weather forecast*
- *helping your child to identify and name some common plants, animals and trees*
- *talking with your child about what plants, animals and people need to survive and grow*

## **Geography within the Theme**

We will be looking at a selection of landscapes including volcanoes and features of the local area.

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

- *talking about the features that you see in the landscape when you are out and about locally and further afield*

## **Music**

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher and there will be a focus on preparing for the leavers' concert and Mass. We will also be using musical instruments to accompany poems and stories in order to enhance impact.

## **Computing**

Your child will be learning to use a programmable toy in a controlled way and they will begin to use different features of a video camera to make a recording.

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

- *talking to your child about directions (left, right, forwards and backwards) and break a journey (such as the journey to and from school) down into step by step directions*

## **PE**

This term the children will focus on multi skills concentrating on ball skills and 'REAL PE'.

**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*