



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



Academic Year 2015-2016

- **Year:** 2
- **Term:** 1

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mrs A Broadhead
- Miss J Golland
- Miss R D'Roza
- 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:

- 'Bug Club' for reading homework
- 'Mymaths' for maths homework
- 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

Handwriting, Spelling, Grammar and punctuation

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

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.

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*
- *encouraging your child to write as often as possible whether it is signing cards, making a shopping list, labelling pictures, writing stories or helping you when you are writing*
- *helping your child to form letters correctly (please ask if you would like more information about this)*

Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

We will focus on:

- ✓ solving word problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication or division in contexts of numbers, measures or pounds and pence
- ✓ deriving and recall all addition and subtraction facts for each number to at least 10, all pairs with totals to 20 and all pairs of multiples of 10 with totals up to 100
- ✓ deriving and recalling multiplication facts for the 2,3,5, 6 and 10 times tables and the related division facts; recognise multiples of 2,3,5, 6 and 10

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

- *encouraging children to answer questions about number bonds to 20 and further*
- *challenging children to multiply numbers by 2,3,4,5, 6 and 10 in their heads*
- *looking at word problems and identifying what the vocabulary means, e.g. 'increase', 'sum' and 'total' all link to addition*
- *talking about coins and their value, spending £1 at the shops and calculating/counting the change*

Theme 1: The way we were

As we start our whole-school curriculum the children will start by investigating different historical events. The topic will culminate in the production of various pieces of independent and extended writing including their very own non-chronological reports, descriptive accounts and stories!

The children will also undertake an international week the week commencing 7th September. Year 2 will be looking at Africa focusing on sculpture, dance and stories.

English: Creative Writing within the Theme

We will focus on stories, poetry and events beyond living memory during this theme. We will be reading information booklets, non-chronological reports and creating imagery poems.

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

- *describing dinosaurs, using adventurous words from a thesaurus*
- *looking at how stories are created and presented*
- *reading poems and creating imagery poetry*



Mathematics within the Theme

We will be working on place value, money and applying our learning by doing “real life” problems. We will be measuring using standard measures and working with 2D and 3D shapes – making sure we use correctly all the associated vocabulary.

This term your child will be working on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division calculations. There will continue to be a focus on really learning the multiplication tables. The children will be encouraged to use and apply this knowledge to solve a range of problems and number puzzles.

Whenever possible, links will be made between mathematics and other subjects so that your child is given plenty of opportunities to apply their mathematical skills to real situations. For instance, within this theme there will be a chance to investigate how many feet fit into a dinosaur footprint.

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

- *investigating 2d and 3d shapes and learning their names*
- *looking for (and naming) different 2d and 3d shapes found around your home and outside*
- *playing suitable online multiplication games*
- *measuring the distance of an object to a given point using a variety of equipment e.g. a tape measure*

Geography within the Theme

We will be learning how to read a map and how to identify places on a map using grid references.

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

- *looking at various maps with different scales linked to where in the world the 'Tardis' visits*
- *comparing different kinds of map identifying similarities and differences*

Science within the Theme

We will be finding out how sound is made and how it travels. We will also be investigating materials to make 'Ancient Greek Pots' and 'Indus Valley toys'.

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

- *talking about what sounds are made by different items*
- *discussing what materials and shapes are best used to allow an object to float*

Computing: We are astronauts

In this unit we are looking to enable the children to:

- *being playground astronauts*
- *using turtle roamers in space*
- *creating sprites and backgrounds*
- *programming a spaceship*
- *moving from one planet to another*

PE

This year the children will be covering a wide variety of PE elements from the scheme of work REAL PE where the children will focus on the fundamentals of agility, balance and coordination. This term the children will be covering a variety of activities related to ball skills and multi skills. Please make sure your child has appropriate school kit including a suitable tracksuit for being outside in the colder weather. Thank you.

Music:

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher. During our topic the year the children will be beginning to look at music appreciation.