



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

*Sharing our learning*

## Academic Year 2014-2015

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

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mr A Broadhead
- Mrs A Pickering
- Miss R D'Roza
- Links Coaches

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first curriculum overview of the new school year. It is so important to share our learning with you because you have a key role as our partners in helping and supporting your child(ren).

The purpose of this document is to let you know what your child will be learning this term and setting out some ways in which you can support your child.

New learning can be very fragile and can be lost altogether if a child does not receive the right kind of follow-up support in school and at home. This is one of the reasons we set homework tasks which aim to support and extend your child's understanding of new concepts.

It is therefore very important that homework is at least attempted. If your child is ever unsure about anything, please reassure him/her and notify the relevant teacher who will be able to provide all the help and encouragement that is required.

We also understand that methods of teaching and learning change and so we are **always** happy to explain them to you if you have a question or are not sure about something. We are happy to arrange additional workshops or even support you on a one-to-one basis.

During our first term the children start their theme which is called 'Home Sweet Home'. If, when you have read this overview, you realise that there is something that you (or someone you know) can support us with please let us know as soon as possible. Perhaps you have a skill, knowledge or real-life experiences to share. Perhaps you have contacts that could be useful.

If you can support us and help us make the learning even more fun and special, please get in touch.

Thank you - as always - for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

## RE Topic 1: People

In this topic the children will discuss and learn about the Church as 'the family of God'. They will explore their own family trees and the family of God in scripture. All elements of the children's literacy targets on their VCOP cards will be brought into the teaching of RE and there are numerous opportunities for speaking and listening through class discussion and role-play.

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

- helping them to find out about their family history
- discussing questions such as 'Where do I come from?' and 'To whom do I belong?'

## RE Topic 2: Called

Before this topic begins the children will study various aspects of Judaism for one week. The topic 'Called' focuses on the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. They will learn that through these sacraments, people are given the gift of the Holy Spirit and are called to respond in their lives. All elements of the children's literacy targets on their VCOP cards will be brought into the teaching of RE and there are numerous opportunities for speaking and listening through class discussion and role-play.





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

- talking about what it means to be chosen
- discussing the child's own experiences of Baptism or other people's experiences of Baptism
- sharing pictures or memories of any Baptisms, Christenings or Confirmations children may have shared in

## English: Basic Skills – Reading, Phonics, Spelling, 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 other books) together
- encouraging your child to read a wider range of more challenging books in order to widen their experience

## Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

We will focus on:

1. Reading, writing, ordering and comparing whole numbers and decimals with up to two places.
2. Recognise and continue sequences of numbers and use number patterns and relationships.
3. Use understanding of place value to multiply and divide whole numbers and decimals by 10, 100 and 1000.
4. Use a written method to add and subtract decimals.

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

- encouraging your child to read large numbers as whole numbers not digits e.g. telephone numbers (248 5009 is read as two hundred and forty eight thousand, five thousand and nine etc.)
- challenging your child to multiply numbers by 10, 100 and 1000 in their heads

## Theme 1: Home Sweet Home

The topic will revolve around two main types of home. The first one will be a general overview of houses and the variety of houses. This will entail children studying different homes and why there is so much variety. Following on from this, we will cover themes about their dream home, which will include the children designing and construct their own 'dream home'.

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

- looking at different buildings in the community and describe them
- taking photographs of building for the children to use

## English: Creative Writing within the Theme

We will focus on descriptive and persuasive writing during this theme. We will be investigating what words are used by estate agents and how they are design to entice people to want this house as their ideal home.

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

- researching facts about the language used to describe a place
- writing persuasive phrases about what is good about their home
- looking at estate agent brochures





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## Mathematics within the Theme

We will focus on: 3D shape, symmetry, measurement and angles.

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

- revising the names and properties of 3D shapes
- measuring items around the home and garden using a variety of equipment with different scales
- finding the angles of items around the home and garden

## 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 about Hackenthorpe and the surrounding area
- planning routes using a map

## Science

Science will be taught outside of the theme and will be the topic of teeth and digestion. Children will be learning about the different jobs that the teeth and digestion system perform.

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

- learning the names for the different parts of the digestive system
- discussing why we need to clean our teeth regularly (and how we do it)

## PE

The children will benefit from specialist teaching from sports coaches from LINKS Partnership. The children will also now have an opportunity to participate in an exciting range of extra-curricular sporting activities and the details will be sent home in due course. This term the children will focus on Basketball and Sports Hall Athletics.

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

- seeing if there is a local athletics team/group to join for a trial period
- finding out more about basketball or the different athletics disciplines
- watching the sports live or on the television
- practising some of the skills and drills covered in school together in the garden or at the park

## Music

During the first term music will follow a music programme called Music Express. The first unit of work is called Play It Again. This topic is about exploring Rhythmic Patterns. They will recognise and create repeated patterns; perform with control of pace and show an awareness of what others are playing

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

- listening to music and discussing the rhythm and reflecting on whether they are memorable and convey a mood, attitude or tell a story
- encouraging children to make up their own songs including lyrics, perhaps in the style of songs they already know

## French

All children in Key stage 2 (Years 3 to 6) will now have a session of French each week led by a specialist languages teacher called Mrs Foley, a languages consultant and ex-local authority advisor. The sessions will be on Friday.

