

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



## Y4 INFORMATION

- YEAR: 2023-24 • TERM: 1
- CONTACT: [year4@st-johnfisher.org](mailto:year4@st-johnfisher.org)

## Y4 TEACHING & LEARNING TEAM

- Mrs A Hambleton • Mrs J Steenson • Mrs C Raynes
- Mrs H Ahmed • Miss T Hobson

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first curriculum overview of our new school year. Its purpose is to tell you about our curriculum and all the things your children will be learning during this first term. We will also offer suggestions for supporting your children at home.

New learning can be fragile which is why it is important to give our children the right kind of support in school and at home. If we get it right our children will feel positive and confident as they learn and make progress.

Homework is set to support and consolidate this new learning - and to encourage the children. It is important that homework is attempted by children on their own. If they do not understand something **they should not worry**. Simply offer them reassurance and encourage them to do what they can. This will help us to understand what they remember and know, so that any gaps can be pinpointed and targeted with the right support.

If the children have done their best we will *always* be proud of them. If your child is stuck then please let us know. You can speak to someone in the office; let the teacher know via the class email; or send in a note. Remember to say (i) what they remembered; (ii) what they could do; and (iii) what they struggled with. We will then follow it up with lots and lots of reassurance and the right kind of support.

Please avoid the temptation to 'over-help' your children with homework tasks because this could end up masking a gap and delay the children getting the help they need. Just offer encouragement and keep telling them that everyone at school will understand and help and support them.

We know that ways of teaching and learning change over time and so we are **always** happy to explain our approaches if you are not sure and have questions. Please just ask. Children can find it very confusing if parents/carers try to show them what they remember being taught at school, especially if this is different to our approach.

As always, please contact us if you can offer support with any aspect of the curriculum overview perhaps because you have particular skills, knowledge or experiences, artefacts, useful contacts or you would like to volunteer to help us on an educational visit. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

  
Headteacher

## TERM 1 LEARNING VALUE

Our value for this term is '**Determination**'. Being determined is having the ability to keep going, even when there are setbacks. It's accepting that things don't always work out the way you expect them to, but continuing to set new goals that help you to grow as a person. Believing in yourself, being patient, and being the best that you can be are all important parts of determination!

*What does determination look like to you?*

- ✓ you can say "Yes I can!"
- ✓ you can set yourself your own challenging goals
- ✓ you have confidence in yourself to keep going, even when things get tough



**ST CLARE**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



*If you have determination what do you realise?*

- ✓ never, ever, ever give up
- ✓ you can reach your potential if you believe in yourself
- ✓ confidence gives you the strength to carry on when it's really hard

*How can you can show determination?*

- ✓ having a positive and determined mind-set
- ✓ setting challenging goals and having the courage to try
- ✓ be a superhero
- ✓ say "Yes I can!"



## RE

Information about our Term 1 RE curriculum is in the 'Come and See' letter accompanying this overview.

Details of liturgies, Masses and services will be shared in the weekly newsletter, available [here](#) and recordings can be viewed via this [link](#).

In Term 1 we focus on the key virtues of '**courtesy**', '**honesty**' and '**thankfulness**', which are very relevant as we continue our Eastertide journeys together.

## HOMWORK

Homework is given out on Friday and it is expected back by the following Friday. It will consist of:

- a mix of 'MyMaths' online homework ([www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)) and other Mathematics homework
- 'Bug Club' for reading homework
- spellings for a weekly spelling quiz each week (please work hard on these to meet new standards)
- cross-curricular theme-related homework at various other times
- times tables

## ENGLISH

### Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar & Handwriting

All children will benefit from having daily handwriting and spelling practise, and regular grammar and punctuation sessions focused on meeting their individual needs. Children all have individual targets for writing, such as including specific punctuation or using descriptive language and these will be focussed on throughout all their writing.

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

- ✓ supporting them to learn their weekly spellings
- ✓ looking at synonyms and antonyms.
- ✓ talking about their targets for writing

### Reciprocal reading

All children will have daily access to reading resources and twice each week will be completing reciprocal reading which will help to improve their confidence, enjoyment and develop comprehension skills.

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

- ✓ reading their own books with them for a few minutes every day
- ✓ choosing another book by the same author, to read with your child
- ✓ encouraging your child to read a wider range of more challenging books, to widen their experience
- ✓ discussing their personal targets for reading (as shared on their record sheet)



## MATHEMATICS

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

- mental calculation strategies
- place value
- formal calculation methods

### Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ columns      ✓ operations      ✓ digits      ✓ symbols      ✓ calculations

### 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

## HUMANITIES

Our focus will be the timeline and society of the Anglo-Saxons and the Scots. We will learn about their daily lives and how they changed Britain. The children will be investigating Anglo-Saxon gods and goddesses.

### Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ tanner      ✓ Angles      ✓ Saxons      ✓ Woden      ✓ weaving

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

- ✓ researching the Anglo –Saxon settlement of England and what was happening in Scotland at the time
- ✓ evaluating the different ways that we find out about the past and how we can use historical evidence

## PE

The children will benefit from a programme called Real PE. This term the children will develop personal skills with a focus on physical co-ordination and balance linked to swimming.

### Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ agility      ✓ balance      ✓ coordination      ✓ catching      ✓ bouncing  
✓ throwing

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

- ✓ encouraging your child to demonstrate what they have done in their REAL PE lesson
- ✓ encouraging your child to practice catching and throwing.
- ✓ playing games in your garden or in the park, particularly running, chasing and ball skills

## SCIENCE

### Living Things and their Habitats

This term we will be looking at a variety of ways to identify, sort, group and classify living things. They learn how animals are split into 'vertebrates' and 'invertebrates' and begin to consider the differences between living things within these classifications.

### Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ invertebrate      ✓ vertebrate      ✓ classification      ✓ organism      ✓ variation

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

- ✓ researching different habitats and the plants and animals that live in it
- ✓ discussing animals that live need your home

## MUSIC

The children will be take an imaginary train journey around Asia as they listen to of music from China, Japan, Pakistan and India and discuss it, noting its instrumentation, tempo and dynamics. They will begin to explore

aspects of the culture surrounding it, looking at maps, videos and images of these places as they discuss the geography. They will learn a Japanese nursery rhyme and learn how to play this on the glockenspiel.

**Key words we will be using are:**

- genres            ✓ qawwali            ✓ traditional            ✓ harmonium            ✓ sarangi            ✓ dholak
- texture            ✓ thick (lots)            ✓ thin (few)
- pitch            ✓ high            ✓ low            ✓ pentatonic            ✓ scale            ✓ C major
- tempo            ✓ fast            ✓ slow            ✓ pulse
- dynamics            ✓ louder            ✓ quieter            ✓ forte            ✓ piano

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

- ✓ encouraging your child by doing some research at home about different nations in Asia
- ✓ investigating different types of traditional Asian music and reflecting on which are the most interesting

**ART AND DT**

The children will be studying healthy diets in Design Technology. They will investigate different foods and decide which are the most healthy. We will learn to select and use a range of utensils and use a range of techniques as appropriate to prepare ingredients hygienically including the bridge and claw technique, grating, peeling, chopping, slicing and spreading.

**Key words we will be using are:**

- ✓ texture            ✓ taste            ✓ sweet            ✓ sour            ✓ hot            ✓ spicy
- ✓ smell            ✓ preference            ✓ appearance            ✓ greasy            ✓ moist            ✓ cook
- ✓ fresh            ✓ savoury            ✓ hygienic            ✓ edible            ✓ grown            ✓ reared
- ✓ caught            ✓ frozen            ✓ tinned            ✓ processed            ✓ seasonal            ✓ harvested
- ✓ healthy            ✓ varied diet            ✓ depths            ✓ shades

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

- ✓ discussing the variety of foods that you eat.
- ✓ encouraging your child to help in the kitchen.

**FRENCH**

In French we will be learning 'All Around Town'. We will learn to develop our intercultural understanding by being introduced to the sights of some typical French cities. We will also learn to describe places in a town, count to 100 and give our address in French.

**Key words we will be using are:**

- ✓ un crayon            ✓ où [where]            ✓ J'habite à... [I live in...]            ✓ Où habites-tu?
- ✓ Paris            ✓ Lyon            ✓ Nice            ✓ Nantes
- ✓ Strasbourg            ✓ Montpellier            ✓ Bordeaux            ✓ Lille
- ✓ magasin [shop]            ✓ école [school]            ✓ église [church]            ✓ muse [museum]
- ✓ boulangerie [bakery]            ✓ piscine [pool]            ✓ gare [railway station]            ✓ pâtisserie [cake shop]
- ✓ café            ✓ supermarché            ✓ marche [market]            ✓ cinéma
- ✓ parc [park]            ✓ théâtre            ✓ mosquée [mosque]            ✓ rivière [river]

**COMPUTING**

This term our focus is 'The Internet'. Learners will apply their knowledge and understanding of networks, to appreciate the internet as a network of networks which needs to be secure. They will learn that the World Wide Web is part of the internet and will be given opportunities to explore it for themselves to learn about who owns content and what they can access, add, and create. Finally, they will evaluate online content and decide how honest, accurate and reliable it is, understanding the consequences of false information.

## Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ networks
- ✓ sharing information
- ✓ WWW (World Wide Web)
- ✓ internet

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

- ✓ looking at the following website to help you child stay safe online
- ✓ <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

## PSHCE

We will be learning about the caring school, feelings, friends and family, and also appreciating differences. The children will be learning to develop, consider and apply inter-person skills to help teamwork. They will also be evaluating and adapting their techniques as part of continuous cycle of learning.

## Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ friendship
- ✓ teamwork
- ✓ caring
- ✓ kindness

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

- ✓ discussing how friendships change and develop as you grow up.
- ✓ encouraging your child to attempt to talk to other children in the school other than their friends

