

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



Academic Year 2019-20

- **Year:** FS2
- **Term:** 1

Your Child's Teaching & Learning Team:

- Mrs H Darken
- Mrs A Prentice
- Mrs R D'Roza
- Mrs E Walton

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first curriculum overview of our new school year. Its purpose is to let you know what your children will be learning during the 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.

We do set homework in to support new learning and to encourage the children. Our expectations regarding homework will therefore also be shared in this overview.

Clearly, it is very important that all homework is attempted by the children *on their own*. If children do not understand something **they should not worry**. This means that the homework has done its job. If this is the case all we ask is that you simply reassure and encourage your children to do as much as they can. This will really help us understand where the gaps are so that the right support is offered.

If children have genuinely had a good go then we will *always* be proud of them, whatever they manage to finish and achieve.

We certainly do **not** want you or your children panicking or worrying. We also ask that you do not give your children too much help because this could end up masking an issue and cause problems in the longer term. Children will always be encouraged in our school, and all we ask is that they have a good go and do their very best. This is because children learn best when they are confident; children are most confident when they are happy; and children are most happy when they feel loved and supported.

We would rather that parents/carers simply notify staff in person, via the class email or by adding a note to the homework - confirming that the task was attempted and explaining what they believe the issues to be. We will pick this up and act – reassuring and encouraging the children all the time.

Methods and ways of teaching and learning change over time which is why we are **always** happy to explain them to you if you have a specific question or are not sure how to help your child at home. Please just ask. Sometimes it can actually be more confusing for a child when well-meaning parents/carers try to help them based on what they remember being taught, as this could be quite different to how children are taught now.

As always, if you can support us because you have a particular 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, please speak to your child's teacher(s). 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

If you have determination what do you realise?



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- ✓ 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.

Our Theme this Term

This term we will be thinking about Autumn. We learn a story about harvest, what happens to trees during Autumn and the names of some common trees.

In the last few weeks will learn a traditional story and use our senses to explore different spices.

Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ harvest
- ✓ thresh
- ✓ gather
- ✓ Autumn
- ✓ changes
- ✓ senses

EYFS Prime Areas

Communication & Language, Physical Development & Personal, Social & Emotional Development

The EYFS Prime Areas of learning will be the main focus of our teaching and learning this half term. They underpin all aspects of learning in Foundation Stage. The Foundation stage is designed to overlap and compliment all the different areas which make up the curriculum as a whole and hopefully this overview will give you a flavour of how this will work.

Our main theme is linked to the season Autumn and the changes it brings which links well with adjusting in to the new world of school. We want the children to settle well in our class and become familiar and happy with all the new routines. During the next few weeks we will be helping the children to establish simple class rules, which will support positive learning behaviours. The staff will use photos, pictures and gestures with language to support all learners. Children will learn to listen to each other in small groups and sometimes with the whole class. We want to encourage the children to speak confidently to each other and to familiar adults. The children will be expected to care for themselves, each other and our classroom environment. The staff will help the children to keep the classroom tidy and look after the resources. Independence and the child's unique personality will always be valued.

Moving safely around the school environment is important. The children will be supported to keep safe and develop appropriate hygiene routines.

Children will use the outdoor environment every day, so they will need a coat as the weather becomes cooler. Children will also be asked to bring named wellies when the weather gets wetter. The children develop many physical skills and social skills when using the outdoor environment. Already children are showing good turn-taking and co-operative skills.

Longer P.E. sessions will be on **Monday** afternoon and children will be given daily PE instruction in the class outdoor area. During this term the children will be getting used to listening to instructions and responding appropriately in the hall and outdoor



Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ listen
- ✓ share
- ✓ care
- ✓ resilience
- ✓ routine

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

- ✓ giving your child time to think and respond if you ask them a question
- ✓ encouraging your child to dress and undress independently (perhaps helping them by setting out their clothes in the correct order)
- ✓ using a knife and fork to eat meals

EYFS Specific Areas

Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the world, Expressive arts and design

We will be using the school 'Read, Write Inc.' programme to deliver the sound work (phonics) which will help the children to begin to read and write with more confidence. During the first term we will cover different letter(s) sounds each day and will be sending home sheets with the daily sounds on them so they can practice at home. We will be running some sessions for families on phonics and reading during the first term and will send details out later.

In literacy we will role model the different areas in the classroom, we will read a variety of stories including 'The Little Red Hen' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. We will learn and sequence the stories plus many more Autumn related activities. We will also start to think about the natural world learning and naming many berries and nuts seen in Autumn. In addition, we will learn how to identify different trees by the shape of their leaves naming and identifying their features.

In mathematics we will be looking at recognising and creating patterns, counting and recognising numerals 1-10, sequencing these numbers, ordering items by length and weight. We will look at the language used to describe 2D and 3D shapes and explore and create patterns. The curriculum places a lot of emphasis on mathematical language so much of the work will be done orally with little formal recording.

Our topic will support the children's learning about families, people and communities, helping them to understand that people are both different and similar and what make us unique. In expressive arts we will be exploring colour, using different media and materials and selecting and using tools safely and appropriately.

We will be exploring the outdoor area doing planned activities around the school grounds and learning about how to respect and care for our school environment.

Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ phonics
- ✓ sounds
- ✓ formations
- ✓ digits
- ✓ numbers
- ✓ sequence

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

- ✓ helping them with letter sounds at home
- ✓ using everyday opportunities such as cooking, baking and setting the table to support their understanding of mathematics
- ✓ talking to them about things that they find in their environment, using construction sets; helping them to make things using everyday objects and how to use scissors and other tools effectively



EYFS: Characteristics of Learning

Throughout the year we will be looking at how children develop certain 'characteristics' such as how they engage in their learning, find out, explore and 'have a go'. If they are motivated to learn by being involved, concentrating, keep trying and enjoying achieving what they set out to do. We also consider whether they are able to develop their own ideas, make links in their learning and the ways they choose to do things, whether they plan, review or change their strategy when approaching a task. We will talk about being resilient, resourceful, reciprocal and reflective linking these characteristics to media characters.

These are all attitudes to learning that children need to become successful learners. Hopefully we will lay the foundations for these young children so they grow their skills and achieve both personally and academically.

Music

Music is taught by Miss D'Roza. Our module during this theme is called 'Moving Patterns'. We will be learning about musical structures and sequences through a variety of songs and percussion activities.

PE

REAL PE

This will include moving in different directions. Children will develop skills individually & with a partner. We will also be learning about personal skills needed for sport such as good listening.

Outdoor games

Team games will continue- running, hopping, etc, and using some small equipment.

Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ listen
- ✓ stop
- ✓ control
- ✓ coordination
- ✓ teamwork

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

- ✓ continuing to encourage your child to be independent when getting dressed /undressed and being responsible for their own belongings
- ✓ playing games in your garden or in the park, particularly running, chasing and ball skills

Assessment

All assessments throughout Foundation Stage 2 will be done by observational assessment. We will collect photos, written observations as part of our evidence. We also hope you will contribute to your child's learning journey by adding photos and information from home. You will be invited to fill in 'Wow moments' about your child's achievements at home, more information will follow. We will share more information with you as the term progresses.

More information will be given about our new online learning journeys at the FS2 Welcome meeting on **Thursday 19th September at 3.30pm.**

We will give you lots of important information about FS2. We hope to see you there.

