



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



Academic Year 2018-2019

- **Year:** FS2
- **Term:** 2

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mrs H Darken
- Miss R Mcdermott
- Mrs A Prentice
- Miss R D'Roza

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is our second curriculum overview of the year and its purpose is to let you know what the children will be learning in the weeks leading up to Christmas. We also offer suggestions on different ways you can support your children at home.

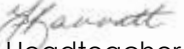
Homework is important and should always be attempted by children on their own. You should not worry if your children do not understand a concept or how to complete a task set for homework - as a key purpose of homework is to see what children know/don't know and what they can and cannot do on their own. We encourage our children to be resilient and remind them constantly that learning is fun but can be challenging - so making mistakes and sometimes struggling are both normal parts of learning and we are all there to help.

If children struggle with a homework task, please offer reassurance and encouragement, and when they have done all they can please tell them that it is ok to stop. We do not want to cause them unnecessary stress nor do we want anyone else to do their homework for them. Please follow let us know with a note; an email; by speaking to us directly; or leaving a message with a colleague in the School Office. We will be understanding and follow-up issues quickly in a calm and positive way, so that children feel reassured rather than anxious.

Ways of teaching and learning change constantly which is why we are **always** happy to explain them either on a one-to-one basis or in workshops so that parent/carer feel more confident helping their children at home. We have workshops to help and our next one is a FS2 Phonics & Reading Workshop on **Thursday 29th November 2018** in the FS2 classroom at 3.30pm. If you would like help and advice on a one-to-one basis please speak to one of us in confidence.

As always, if you can support us because you can demonstrate or share a particular skill, specialist knowledge; a real-life experience, artefacts, or useful contacts – or if you can support us by volunteering to help on an educational visit or with activities in class, then please let us know. All offers are welcomed and appreciated greatly!

Yours sincerely,


Headteacher

RE

God's Family

This will look at how baptism is used to welcome us into God's family and the church and will recap and enhance the topic covered during the first part of this half term on myself.

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

- *talking to them about what it means to be part a family*
- *talking to them about family baptisms and their Baptism or their naming ceremony*

Birthdays

We will help the children to know and understand what a birthday is. We will talk about what it feels like to wait for this special time.





Advent

We will be looking forward to Christmas and the birth of Jesus. We will read the nativity story and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

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

- ✓ *why we celebrate birthdays – how it is special for your family*
- ✓ *the season of advent and what this means to celebrate the birth of Jesus (maybe make an Advent wreath)*
- ✓ *why we give and receive presents at Christmas*

EYFS Prime Areas

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

The children will continue to develop learning within the Prime Areas. The children are now confident to use the classroom resources and are showing good independence around the school.

We will continue to support the children as they develop friendships in the class and the whole school. Our buddies in Y4 add a positive element to the children's relationships and we will plan more events to spend time together.

Communicating effectively with each other remains a strong focus. The children will be encouraged to listen carefully to each other and respond appropriately. Children work with a 'Talk Partner' to help develop the confidence to do this.

This term we will be thinking about the theme of 'Light and Dark'. We will consider night time and the different jobs people might do during the night. We will also think about sources of light how they are powered. We will learn about nocturnal animals and read the book 'Owl Babies'.

We will incorporate learning about 'Celebrations' in to our theme; learning about Diwali, fireworks, Hanukkah and Advent. Throughout their learning the children will be encouraged to ask 'how' and 'why' questions and offer ideas and answers.

In December all the children will be taking part in a Christmas performance and all children will be given an opportunity to take part by singing, dancing or speaking lines.

We will continue to use the outdoor area. Nearly all the children love to be outside – it is often here where they develop physical skills, imaginative games, and are involved in problem solving activities. Warm clothes and wellington boots will be needed!

We will consider ways to keep safe and warm during wet and icy weather. Talking about different clothes and how the weather affects our bodies.

As part of 'Be safe, Be happy' week we will think about how to keep healthy by completing sports activities, We will try to ensure we do our best to prevent spreading germs and understand the importance of good nutrition and hygiene. We will also learn about safety online and ways to be a good friend.

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

- ✓ *asking 'open-ended' questions, which are questions with many possible answers, rather than 'yes'/'no'*
 - *'I wonder what would happen if.....?'*
 - *'How do you think?'*
- ✓ *continue to encourage children to be independent when getting dressed/undressed*
- ✓ *helping children to learn to put on and do up their own coats*

EYFS Specific Areas

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

We will continue to develop literacy skills using the Read Write Inc. programme. Children will begin to take home books to support their reading and will be read with frequently in school.

We will learn about nocturnal animals reading 'Owl Babies' and consider jobs people do at night using a picture book of the same name. We will then explore non-fiction texts to think more about Diwali, Hanukkah and how Christmas is celebrated all over the world.





Children will be encouraged to write in a variety of ways – writing their name on their own work, using their phonic knowledge to write labels, captions etc. We will also encourage children to write for different purposes in their play – letters, invitations, lists and cards.

During the lead up to Christmas the children will be reading and writing the Christmas Story. We will be using drama to think about the feelings of the different people. The children will also have an opportunity to bring home the travelling nativity set. Please encourage them to tell you the story. This will be a special time for celebration. If you have any books or resources to support the children in telling the Christmas Story and wouldn't mind sharing, please bring them in to school.

In mathematics we will continue to recognise and use numbers 1-10 and also beyond 10 – especially related to practical activities within the class. We will be comparing items with differing capacity, thinking about whether containers are full or empty and ordering these. We will also use positional language (backwards, forwards, above, below etc. to program a roamer. The children will have opportunities to revisit and apply their knowledge of 2D shapes.

We will start using the language of time and money in practical ways becoming more familiar with these ideas in relation to real life.

Through the topic the children will be given chance to explore light and cold and dark and learn new information and facts. We will be thinking about the weather as the days get darker and how we can keep ourselves safe.

Across their learning children will be encouraged to use non-fiction books and the internet. We will be introducing 'Bee-bots', torches, 'and ' talking postcards' to encourage the children to use different technology.

We hope the 'Celebration' theme will provide opportunities for children to gain understanding of cultural and religious celebrations during this part of the year. Several children have their birthday this term, so this provides opportunities for children to develop their understanding of a celebration which is meaningful. Role-play opportunities will also be developed around this theme.

The children are developing their drawing, painting skills. They also love creating structures with blocks and making models. As Christmas approaches, the children will be given plenty of opportunity to use their ideas and skills by making decorations, collage pictures & printing. The children will be exploring dance and music linked to fireworks and light

Be Safe - Be Happy Week

When we return from the break it will be 'Be Safe – Be Happy Week'. Across school the children will explore a range of different issues including: bullying, e-safety, stranger danger, hygiene control and safeguarding.



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

- ✓ *helping them with letter sounds at home – saying, reading and writing*
- ✓ *reading stories and looking at non-fiction books*
- ✓ *writing lists and cards*
- ✓ *helping children use technology safely at home*
- ✓ *activities to explore ice – making and melting ice cubes, investigating the weather and the changes that occur as winter comes.*

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.

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

This term we will practise a range of singing and performing skills as we learn a variety of songs for our nativity concert. Children will also get the opportunity to use some of the instruments to accompany these songs. In addition we will be using music to represent snow.

PE

REAL PE

We will focus on jumping and landing, working with a partner and alone. We will consider balance and co-ordination as a key skill for further skills.

Outdoor games

Team games will continue – running, hopping, etc. and using some small equipment. We will develop skills with a bat and ball.

Assessment

All assessments throughout Foundation Stage 2 will be done through observational assessment. We will collect photos, written observations as part of our evidence. Please continue to share any 'wow' moments. This can include joining in with a swimming/dance lesson for the first time, dressing independently for the first time etc.

