



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

*Sharing our learning*



## Academic Year 2014-2015

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

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mrs D Davies
- Mrs J Dewsnap
- Mrs L Miller
- Miss J Pendlebury

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the second curriculum overview of the year and takes us all the way up to Christmas. 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.

It is important that children receive the right kind of support in school and at home so that they can really understand and use all the new things that they learn in school every day. This is why we set homework tasks. That gentle, but constant reinforcement is very important. Developing good homework routines/habits in primary school is also key for future success, which is why teachers' expectations are shared in this overview along with suggestions for supporting your child/ren at home.

It is very important that all homework is at least attempted. If your child does not understand something, do not worry, the homework has done its job. It has revealed a gap that we can then work to close. The quicker we close gaps the better, so just send a note in or email or have a word with the teacher and we will act. No child will ever get into trouble if s/he has honestly done their best but does not understand. It is important that children always feel supported and encouraged especially when they are challenged by something they are learning.

We know that teaching and learning methods change over the years and so are **always** happy to explain them if you have a question or are not sure about something. Just let us know. We are also happy to arrange workshops or even support you on a one-to-one basis if you would find this more helpful. Please speak to your child's teacher in confidence if you would like some support.

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 include:

- 'Big Maths' review homework differentiated at the correct level for your child
- 'Bug Club' for reading homework
- Spellings in readiness for a weekly spelling quiz
- cross-curricular 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. Key Stage 1 children are doing a nativity play which will be performed on **15<sup>th</sup>** and **16<sup>th</sup> December** at **2.15pm**.

## English: Basic Skills – Reading, Phonics, Spelling and 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:**

- *listening to your children read the books that they bring home from school every day at a convenient time, even if it is just for a short time*
- *spending some time sharing a range of other books and reading materials and making reading together 'fun'*
- *encouraging your child to read more challenging texts/different genres to what they are used to in order to widen their reading experience*
- *looking at environmental print*

## Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

This term we will focus on:

1. Counting to 100, forwards and backwards and counting in 10s, 2s and 5s.
2. Looking at number bonds to 10.
3. Reading, writing and using mathematical language such as, fewer/greater than, more/less than
4. Reading and writing the numerals and the number names to 20.
5. Addition and subtraction within 20.
6. Reading, writing and understanding mathematical statements including '+', '-', and '='

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

- *Counting to 100 (forwards and backwards)*
- *Counting in 10s, 2s and 5s to 100.*
- *Answering and asking questions such as 'What is three more/less than xx?' or 'how many more do we need to make XX?'*
- *Playing number games eg. If there are 10 buttons in total keep 6 out and hide the rest under a cup. How many are hidden?*
- *Using addition and subtraction as part of your everyday routines, e.g. 'if we have 6 biscuits and we eat 3 of them how many will be left?'*

## Theme 1- The Way We Were

This half term we are going to be looking at different types of homes throughout the ages and comparing these to present day homes. We are starting with life in a castle and then looking at Tudor and Victorian homes and the kind of things they had inside them. We will be looking at the Great Fire of London as part of the Tudor Homes topic.

### **Remembrance Service**

In the run up to our Remembrance Service on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November, the children will be having a lesson about the importance of Remembrance Day and what it really means. Please join us of the Remembrance Service. It starts at 10.30am on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November at Our Lady of Lourdes.



### **Be Safe - Be Happy Week**

When we return from the break it will be 'Be Safe – Be Happy Week', our third special curriculum week of the school year. Across school the children will explore a range of different issues including: bullying, fire safety, road safety, e-safety, stranger danger, basic first aid, 'Bikeability' and safeguarding.



### **English: Creative Writing within the Theme**

During this term we will be looking at a selection of fiction and non-fiction texts based around homes through the ages. There will be lots of opportunity for independent writing based on your child's individual interests and the stories and non-fiction texts we have been looking at. We will also focus on the children creating their own stories. As this term leads to Christmas we are going to study the Nativity story in depth, looking at and writing about, each section of the story in turn. The children will then produce their own uniquely written Nativity story. If you have any books related to the Christmas Story we would love to have a look at them and share the different versions with the class. We are going to look in detail about where Jesus was born, what it would have been like to be a shepherd at night and try and get a feel for how the kings would have lived and behaved. All these details will help the depth and detail of the children's writing.

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

- *reading and sharing stories and books both fiction and non-fiction*
- *introducing your child to the language of stories and the new vocabulary found in nonfiction books*
- *encouraging your child to act out stories, perhaps with older siblings or with friends*

### **Science within the Theme**

Throughout the term we will be looking at different materials, their properties and uses.

#### **You can support your child's learning with science this term at home by:**

- *talking about and describing the materials used to make familiar household items and their properties*
- *discussing why some materials suit certain objects more than others (e.g. does it need to be waterproof, strong and bendy?)*

### **History within the Theme**

We will be looking at how houses, homes and lifestyles have changed over the ages.

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

- *talking about the different types of houses in the environment (detached, semi-detached, terrace)*
- *finding out about how different life was when grandparents and parents were children*
- *talking about the items (including toys) that grandparents/parents had that we don't have now*

### **Music**

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher and there will be a focus on preparing for the nativity play. We will also be using musical instruments to accompany poems and stories in order to enhance impact.

### **Computing**

Your child will use a paint package to create pictures and they will be use a programmable toy in a controlled way. They will begin to use cameras and video cameras to make recordings.

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

- *talking to your child about directions (left, right, forwards and backwards) and break a journey (such as the journey to and from school) down into step by step directions*

### **PE**

This term the children will focus on multi skills concentrating on ball skills and 'REAL PE' especially agility and balance.

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

- *asking them about their lessons and what they have learned*
- *practising the skills learned in school*