



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning

Academic Year 2013-2014

- Year: 1
- Term: 4

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Ms N Farrow
- Mrs Asquith
- Miss Pendlebury
- Ms Golland
- Mrs Dewsnap

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term we continue to pilot our new curriculum as we continue with our whole-school 'Theme' called 'Marvellous Machines'.

This is our fourth curriculum overview of the year and the aim remains to provide you with information about what your children will be learning along with tips for supporting them at home. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the parent/carer workshop focusing on subtraction and addition strategies has been rescheduled for **Thursday 13th March 2014** and will take place from 3.30pm starting in the school hall. You are all welcome to come along in order to find out more about the strategies your children are taught.

If you have any questions about the curriculum or if you require any support yourself please let us know straight away. We would still like to hear from you if you feel able to support us in any way – especially if you have an interest or expertise in anything being covered during this theme. At the end of the theme we intend to have a whole-school exhibition - to which you will all be invited - so we can share what we have done and celebrate what we have learned.

I would also welcome your thoughts and feedback either throughout the theme or via a questionnaire I will send home towards the end of the theme. Thank you for your continued support - it is appreciated by us all.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

R.E. Topic 1: Eucharist - Relating: Meals (continued)

Children will continue to think about sharing special meals, going to Mass as part of God's family, preparing for the special meal for the parish family, the story of The Last Supper, The Our Father prayer, Communion time and celebrating with the parish family after Mass.

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

- *Talking about special family occasions and meals and what they help you celebrate.*
- *Discussing The Last Supper story and its significance and sharing the Our Father prayer.*
- *Thinking together about Communion and how you spend time with your parish family after Mass.*

R.E. Topic 2: Lent/Easter - Giving

Children will be thinking about Lent, a time of change in preparation for Easter. They will think about making a new start. They will learn about Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

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

- *Talking about what your family will do during Lent.*
- *Discussing Easter and what this means to you.*
- *Thinking together about change and making a new start.*

English: Daily Reading & Phonics Skills

Read Write Inc Sessions

Children on the Read Write Inc programme will continue to have daily sessions with their group aimed 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.





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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 enjoying all sorts of other books and reading materials together.
- You can help your child to read signs and notices when you are out and about so she/he realises reading is everywhere.
- Encouraging your child to write as often as possible whether it is signing cards, making a shopping list, labelling pictures, writing stories or helping you when you are writing.
- Helping your child to form letters correctly. Please ask if you would like more information about this.

English: Basic Skills

All children will benefit from having daily handwriting and spelling practise and regular grammar and punctuation sessions focused on their *individual* needs. Please come and chat about what your child is working on in school.

Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

We will continue to focus on counting to and from 100 but now in tens, twos and fives and starting from different numbers, not just zero or 100. We will also continue to add and subtract numbers to 20 and to make sets to multiply/divide. We will also be thinking about fractions, halves and quarters for those who are ready.

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

- Continuing to count forwards and backwards to and from different numbers up to 100. Ask questions such as *what comes after..., before..., what number is two more than/less than....?* Encourage your child to count in 10s, 2s and 5s.
- Try making sets from different numbers eg 15, 16 or 18 etc. What does your child notice about sets of 2, 5 or 4?
- Can your child halve then quarter numbers and shapes and objects?

Theme 1 Introduction: Marvellous Machines (continued)

Our Marvellous Machines theme continues with farm machines and a visit to Whirlow Hall Farm. We will also think about animals and how they grow and the changes in spring, explaining this to our alien friend Zug. The theme will consist of cross-curricular lessons and separate modules to ensure that everything is covered and so that deep learning can take place.

English: Creative Writing

Children will be learning about non-fiction writing when describing the farm animals and machines and the changes in spring. They will also learn about story writing. In both the emphasis will be on extending sentences with connecting words and use of adjectives to make sentences more exciting and interesting for the reader.

Mathematics within the Theme

We will continue to focus on: 2D shapes, weight and position and direction.

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

- Spotting shapes at home or whilst you are out and about. Notice which shapes join together well (tessellate) and how many edges and corners they have. Think about whether the sides are the same or different lengths and what different shapes are called.
- Compare heavy and light objects, whether your child can lift the object or not and what you use at home to measure weight.
- Think about the vocabulary of direction and play games giving your child instructions to move forwards, backwards, turn, go left, right, over, under, behind, next to etc. Remote controlled toys are great for this topic if you have one at home.





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Science

We will continue to think about materials and find out about forces. We will also focus on spring weather and changes.

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

- Talking about pushing, pulling, twisting and spinning objects and what happens to them when you do this. Is it the same if you push gently as it is when you push vigorously?
- Using the internet and/or public library to research forces.
- Explore spring weather together and notice how it feels/looks and the effects it has on people and nature.

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)

This term we will focus on making changes and taking care of others.

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

- Discussing the changes people might want to make in Lent and why.
- Thinking about things your child may want to change and how s/he could contribute to taking care of others.

Geography/History

We will think about the spring climate. We will think about farming and we will also focus on events beyond living memory, particularly linked to our topic of machines and inventions.

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

- Discussing different weather conditions including those shown on the news and those in our everyday lives.
- Talking about animal babies in spring, particularly farm animals.
- Investigating inventions and machines through history on the internet or at the library.

Art

In art we will focus on observational drawings and 3D models of animals and spring flowers and plants. We will work alone and in pairs and groups to create our work.

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

- Finding interesting pictures of animals and plants.
- Trying some 3D model making at home.
- Researching the life and works of Barbara Hepworth

P.E.

P.E. is on Wednesday afternoon each week. Sessions are led by specialist P.E. coaches. This term they will cover athletics and multi skills both indoors and out.

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

- Doing lots of physical activity regularly e.g. playing games in the garden, going to the park and swimming.
- By watching different sports on the television or via clips on the internet so that your child can see athletes performing at the highest level.

Music: "Taking Off"

This term we are exploring pitch. We will sing songs and use tuned instruments to make high, middle and low sounds. The children will learn to use symbols to represent the different pitches.

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

- Asking your child to sing songs to you and talk about music lessons. (Music is on Friday).
- Making your own instruments at home using recycled materials like boxes, elastic bands, dried pasta/rice/lentils to make instruments that shaken, hit or strummed – and then see what the pitch is and investigate whether it can be changed.

