



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

*Sharing our learning*

## Academic Year 2015-2016

- **Year:** 3
- **Term:** 1

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mr Broadhead
- Miss R D'Roza
- Miss A May
- Miss J Pendlebury
- Mrs Scott

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first curriculum overview of the new school year. 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.

New learning is fragile and needs time to embed so that it is not lost. It is important that children receive the right kind of support in school and at home. This is why we set homework tasks with the aim of supporting and extending your child's new learning. Expectations regarding homework are therefore also shared in the overview along with suggestions for supporting children at home.

It is very important that all homework is at least attempted at home. If you have a child who does not understand something set for homework, then the homework has done its job. Please ask your child to do as much as he/she can honestly manage, offer reassurance and notify the relevant teacher the next day who will then follow it up with all the help and encouragement that that your child requires. Please do not force your child to carry on if he/she really does not understand, as this can be negative.

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

During our first term the children start a new theme called 'The Way We Were'. 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 set homework every week on Friday and this will be due back by the following Thursday.

The homework will be:

- [www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk) (which will be differentiated to the correct level for your child)
- [www.activelearnprimary.co.uk](http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk) (new website for 'Bug Club') for reading homework
- spellings to learn for a weekly quiz
- additional topic 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 Mrs Miller 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.*

## R.E. Topic:

For information on the RE curriculum please see the attached 'Come and See' letter.



## English: Basic Skills – Reading, Phonics, Spelling, Handwriting

### 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
- talking about their targets for writing

### Guided Reading

All children have daily reading activities to boost their levels of confidence and enjoyment as well as their comprehension skills, as this is a really important part of reading and one that is overlooked.

#### 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 other books) together
- choosing another book by the same author, to read with your child
- encouraging your child to read a wider range of more challenging books in order to widen their experience
- talking about their personal targets for reading (as shared on their record sheet from parent's evening)

## Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

We will focus on the following this term:

- ✓ addition and subtraction using a range of methods
- ✓ place value, including ordering and comparing numbers up to and beyond 1000
- ✓ developing mental methods of calculation to solve a range of word problems

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

- getting the children to look at numbers around them and being able to know what each number represents for example; 56, the 5 means 50
- practising times tables each night
- looking at your child's individual maths target and talking about it with them

## Theme: The way we were

Our main curriculum topic this term will be monarchs of the past. We will also be having focussed sessions in science about rocks and soils, and plants and animals. All of our art, geography, D.T. and science will be covered through this topic.

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

- researching British monarchs in general, and the order of Kings and Queens, specifically.
- discussing the different ways that we find out about the past and how we can use historical evidence
- making sure that you are aware of what children are viewing or engaging with online and talking to them about staying safe

## English: Creative Writing within the Theme

### Literacy Sessions

This term, we will be focusing on the theme of 'The way we were'. The children will be examining how stories are structured and the way authors use language to add detail and engage their readers. 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. We will also be writing non-fiction texts such as reports, using our topic work as a starting point.

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

- reading books about our monarchs
- researching information about different plants and animals and how they survive in their environments.
- finding out facts about how rocks are formed



## Mathematics within the Theme

We will focus on:

- ✓ 2D shapes
- ✓ measures

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

- *looking at and talking about different lengths, area, and perimeter of an object*
- *investigating 2D shapes at home and discuss their names*

## Geography within the Theme

We will be learning about human and physical geography and how to identify the differences between the two.

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

- *looking at various maps about different features of the planet*
- *identifying human and physical area of the world*

## Science within the Theme

We will be looking at rocks and soils, and plants and animals.

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

- *looking at pictures of plants and animals and talking about how they help support our world*
- *discussing different types of plants and animals*
- *talking about how rocks and soil are formed*

## Computing within the Theme

This term, we will be exploring programming.

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

- *looking at free applications (apps) to make objects move e.g. 'Scratch'*

## Music: Painting with Sound

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher. During our 'Painting with Sound' unit the children will:

- ✓ identify instruments and how they represent different images
- ✓ invent sounds and instruments to represent a picture
- ✓ decide how to combine sounds to create a Haunted House composition

## PE

The children will benefit from a new programme called Real PE. This term the children will develop batting and fielding skills through a focus on cricket and rounders.