



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

*Sharing our learning*



## Academic Year 2017-2018

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

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mr E Shepherd
- Miss R D'Roza
- Mrs C Raynes
- Mrs E Walton

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first curriculum overview of our school year. Its purpose is to let you know what your children will be learning during the first term. We will offer suggestions on how children can be supported 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 they will feel positive and confident. We set homework to support, encourage and extend new learning, so that it can embed. Our expectations regarding homework are therefore also shared.

Naturally, it is very important that all homework is attempted at home by children on their own. If children do not understand something **they should not worry**. In one way this means that the homework has done its job. If this is the case we ask parents/carers to simply offer reassurance and encouragement to do as much as they can, whatever it is. This will help us understand what they know and where the gaps are. Parents/carers should not worry. Homework is just one of the ways we check what children know.

If children have genuinely had a good go then we will *always* be proud of them, whatever they achieve. We do **not** want children or parents/carers panicking or children being given too much help to finish as this could mask an issue and do more harm in the long term. Children learn best when they are confident. Children are most confident when they are happy. 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.

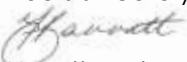
Methods and ways of teaching and learning change over time which is why we are **always** happy to explain them to you if you have a specific question or are not sure how to help your child at home. Please just ask. Sometimes it can actually be more confusing for a child when well-meaning parents/carers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

Please remember that we are **always** happy to provide parents/carers with one-to-one help and support so please speak to us in confidence. We have a number of workshops planned for parents/carers, so please try to join us. Supervised childcare will be offered for each event close by. The details are:

Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	3.30pm	Mathematics Workshop: SJF Curriculum & Approach	School Hall
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	3.30pm	Mathematics Workshop: Addition & Subtraction	All Classrooms
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	3.30pm	FS2 Phonics & Reading Workshop (1)	FS2 Classroom
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	3.30pm	Y1 Reading and Spelling Workshop	Y1 Classroom
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	3.30pm	FS2 Phonics & Reading Workshop (2)	FS2 Classroom
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	3.30pm	Mathematics Workshop: Multiplication & Division	All Classrooms
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	3.30pm	FS2 Phonics & Reading Workshop (3)	FS2 Classroom

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





## Homework

Homework is given out on Wednesday and it is expected back by the following Tuesday. It will consist of:

- a mix of 'MyMaths' online homework ([www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)) and other Mathematics homework
- 'Bug Club' for reading homework
- spellings for a weekly spelling quiz each week (please work hard on these to meet new standards)
- cross-curricular theme-related homework at various other times

### The Study Hub

The lunchtime 'Study Hub' provides pupils with an opportunity to practise/embed new skills learned in class, do research, read, access online learning tools or complete homework. Children have supervised access to all our resources including technology as well as the support of Mrs Raynes. All are welcome!

## RE

Information about the RE curriculum is included in the 'Come and See' letter accompanying this overview.

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

### Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar & Handwriting

All children benefit from having regular handwriting and spelling practise and regular grammar and punctuation sessions focused on meeting their *individual* needs.

### Book Study

We will be reading 'The Butterfly Lion' by Michael Morpurgo and completing comprehension activities to accompany it. Children will carry out a range of tasks linked to the book.

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

- ✓ reading your child's reading books with them every day as well as enjoying different books together
- ✓ read more challenging texts to widen their experience
- ✓ reading different stories by Michael Morpurgo looking for similarities and differences between them

## Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

This term we will be focusing on the new Y4 mathematics. We will be looking at this term:

- mental calculation strategies
- place value
- more formal calculation methods

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

- ✓ adding, subtracting and multiplying two digit numbers
- ✓ talking about numbers and what each digit means in numbers to 100,000

## Humanities

We will be learning about The Stone Age and find out what life was like for early man. We will look at homes, what was eaten and art and design. The children will be learning about why these groups chose to settle where they did and the characteristics of these places. We will look at place names and what we can tell about a place from its name. We will also look at how people who lived during the Stone Age became farmers.

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

- ✓ researching 'Stone Age' settlements
- ✓ investigating about some of the many achievements of people who lived during the 'Stone Age'
- ✓ considering and listing some of the differences between life in the 'Stone Age' and 2018

## PE

This term the children will do PE on Wednesdays. They will focus on swimming and elements of from our REAL PE programme.

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

- ✓ discussing what they have been learning in lessons





## Science

### *Rocks and Soils*

During the topic Rocks and Soils we will be exploring rocks and finding out how different types of rock are formed, both natural and man-made. We will discover the properties of different rocks and discuss their uses. We will learn about how soil is made and what it's made from as well as how fossils are made.

### **You can help at home by:**

- ✓ looking out for rocks in and around the home and out and about and talking about how they are used
- ✓ doing research to find out about different palaeontologists and the fossils they discovered
- ✓ exploring the website <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/> in particular looking at the Dino Discovery section: <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/dino-directory/index.html>
- ✓ asking your child to explain how rocks, soil and fossils are made to share their learning with you

## Music

During our 'Animal Magic' unit the children will:

- discuss how different animals are described
- learn 'The Tortoise Song' and adding movements
- learn the melody on the glockenspiels
- watch and learn traditional Indian dance movements that represent different animals
- invent music to represent different animal movements

## Art and DT

We will learn about the lives of people who lived during the 'Stone Age' and consider what they achieved. The children will explore cave paintings and create their own designs using natural cave painting materials. We will also investigate Stonehenge design as the children make their own models of 'Stone Age' houses.

### **You can help at home by:**

- ✓ using the internet safely in order to investigate designs which originate from the Stone Age period
- ✓ creating a design of the head of the ship which can be incorporated into the finished design

## French

French will be taught fortnightly with Madame Crompton. This term we will focus on basic vocabulary and developing confidence with conversational French. Further information will be shared in due course.

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

- ✓ exploring the website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/french/> and listening to how to pronounce vocabulary correctly
- ✓ asking your child to count and greet people in French - practising is shared in class

## Computing

We will be looking at computer networks, including the internet and how they can provide services such as the World Wide Web. We will also be using search engines to find information and to understand how to evaluate the usefulness of digital content. We will also reinforce key messages around being safe online.

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

- ✓ helping and encouraging your child to use the World Wide Web to search for information responsibly
- ✓ explore different sources of information available e.g. BBC Bitesize

## PSHCE

We will be focussing on 'growing' this term. We will explore how we can become more independent in our learning and how we can tackle problems for ourselves. We will be looking at how we can take more responsibility for ourselves and others in school and at home - and what it means.

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

- ✓ encouraging your child to have more responsibilities at home
- ✓ supporting your child to solve a problem on their own

