



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our Learning

Academic Year 2016-2017

- **Year:** 3
- **Term:** 2

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Miss Kiernan
- Miss Scholey
- Miss D'Roza
- Miss J Pendlebury
- Mrs Asquith

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the second curriculum overview of our school year. The purpose of the overview is to let you know what your children will be learning this Term and suggest some ways in which you can offer support at home.

As new learning can be very fragile it is important that all children receive the right kind of support in school and at home. This is why we set homework. The aim is to support and extend new learning. Our expectations regarding homework are therefore shared in the overview with suggestions for things you can do 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 that has been set for homework, please do **not** worry, the homework has done its job. Please reassure your child and ask him/her to do as much as they can. This will help us understand the issue(s) and identify gaps in knowledge.

Try not to fall into the trap of doing it for them, or panic that it will reflect badly on your child or on you as parents/carers. The key thing is that the homework is attempted seriously and your child does his/her best.

As soon as you can just notify your child's teacher (in person or by adding a note to the homework that has been attempted) so that the issue can be followed up – and most importantly – so your child can receive all the reassurance and encouragement that they need from us in order to move forward.

We also know that methods of teaching and learning change constantly which is why we are **always** happy to explain them to you if you have a question or are not sure about something. Sometimes it can be confusing for a child when well-meaning parents/carers try to teach the way they learned because it might undo what has been taught in class.

To help you help us we are **always** happy to arrange parent/carer workshops or even provide one-to-one support to parents/carers who would like this. Please speak to us in confidence if you would like some help.

As always, if you can support us because you have a 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 then please speak to your child's teacher(s). All offers of help are welcomed and appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

Homework

Children are set homework each Wednesday which is due back by the following Tuesday. The homework is:

- www.mymaths.co.uk
- www.activelearnprimary.co.uk (new website for 'Bug Club') for reading homework
- spellings to learn for a weekly quiz and additional topic related homework at various other times.

The Study Hub

The daily 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. They will have supervised access to our resources and the support of Mrs Raynes if they need it. All are welcome.

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.

Book Study

All children have daily reading activities to boost their levels of confidence and enjoyment as well as their comprehension skills, as this is real 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 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 wide range of more challenging books to widen their experience
- ✓ talking about their personal targets for reading

Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

This term we will focus on:

- subtraction up to 10,000 using column subtraction
- addition and subtraction word problems

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

- ✓ recapping on how to order numbers according to the place value of their digits
- ✓ comparing numbers and stating the difference between the numbers
- ✓ asking questions like, 'Thomas has 1345 stickers but Michael has 347 more, how many does Michael have?'

Theme: A Whole New World

Our main curriculum topic this term will be The Vikings. We will also be having focussed sessions in science about rocks and soils. All of our art, geography, history, D.T. and science will be covered through this topic.

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

- researching the Vikings in general, their day-to-day lives and the skills they used to travel to new lands.
- looking at various maps about different physical features of the planet.
- 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.

Be Safe - Be Happy Week

This term we will have 'Be Safe – Be happy Week' and across school children will explore a range of different issues including: bullying, fire safety, road safety, e-safety, 'stranger-danger', basic first aid, 'Bikeability' and safeguarding issues.



English: Creative Writing within the Theme

This term, we will be focusing on the theme of 'A Whole New World'. The children will be writing non-fiction texts such as information leaflets and newspaper reports, using our topic work as a starting point and organising their writing using paragraphs, headings and sub-headings. We will also 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.



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

- ✓ reading books about Vikings
- ✓ finding out facts about how Britain changed during Viking times
- ✓ encouraging your child to describe in detail when discussing objects, places, events in general

Art and Design within the Theme

We will be learning about the Vikings as great craft makers and designers. The children will be learning to design a Viking longboat. They will be deciding how it is to be decorated in order to scare off other invaders.

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

- ✓ look at designs for Viking shields

Science

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

Computing within the Theme

This term, we will be exploring programming.

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

- ✓ using language to describe directions such as forward, backward, turn left and turn right
- ✓ looking at free applications (apps) to make objects move e.g. 'Scratch.'

Music: Painting with Sound

Your child will be learning a variety of Christmas songs and traditional carols in preparation of our KS2 carol service on Friday 16th December at 2pm at church. Some children will also have the opportunity to add instrumental accompaniments to these carols.

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

- ✓ asking your child to sing these songs to you and talk about music lessons. (Music is on Friday each week)

PE

The children will benefit from a programme called Real PE. This term the children will develop personal skills with a focus on physical co-ordination and balance. This term the children will also be doing swimming.

French

We will continue to practise using the numbers 0-10 in French and greetings. We will learn how to ask 'what is your name?' and how to answer this question. We will also learn a little about French traditions at Christmas time.

You can help at home by:

- ✓ exploring the website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/french/>
- ✓ using French numbers at home whenever you are counting
- ✓ researching French culture and finding out about a Christmas tradition