



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

*Sharing our learning*

## Academic Year 2012-2013

- Year: 3
- Term: 4

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Miss Rybka
- Mrs Pickering
- Mr Hawley
- Miss D Rosa
- Miss Pendlebury

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 13<sup>th</sup> 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: Listening and Sharing

We will start by finishing off the topic by covering the Preparation of the Gifts, the Eucharist Prayer and The Communion Rite and the words and phrases used by the priest during these important parts of the Mass. The children will be assessed on their understanding of the Eucharist Prayer and will be asked to describe the actions and words and give reasons for these.

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

- *Talking about the words and phrases used by the Priest when the bread and wine are turned into the body and blood of Christ*
- *Investigate and discuss what the Eucharist is about and what we are thankful for.*

## R.E. Topic 2: Lent & Easter

The next topic that we will look at is the topic of Lent/ Easter with a particular focus on Giving. We will explore the different ways in which people give such as time, knowledge, happiness and help. We will also look at the total giving of Jesus and discuss the importance of remembering this during the time of Lent.

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

- *Discussing the last supper and Jesus giving himself*
- *Discuss how we can give to people and why it is important to give to people*

## English: Daily Reading & Spelling 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. We will be looking at different types of texts and revisiting the skill of retrieving information and supporting this with information from the text. However our main foci this half term are looking at the author's choice of words and decision for the characters actions and inference of why a character has done what they have done.

### **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.
- 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

## **Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills**

We will be looking fractions this term. The focus, for the children operating at Level 2, will be to find halves and quarters and for those at Level 3 the focus will be to find halves, thirds, quarters, sixths and tenths of numbers, amounts and shapes. The children will also apply this knowledge to solve word problems. The children will also develop their understanding of place value following on from their work on subtraction I have noticed there are some areas such as addition and subtraction of 10 that requires further work. We will also keep revisiting and practising the four operations.

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

- Counting forwards in 2's, 5's and 10's 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....?
- Help them add 10 and subtract 10 in 2 digit numbers and 3 digit numbers and see if they can spot a pattern. They can then also try adding and subtracting hundreds.
- You can help them find fractions of amounts at home with food, Lego e.g. I have four bricks what fraction is blue or yellow? Also with number by dividing by the denominator.
- You can also help them revise adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing. You can either come in and see me for the methods or come to the maths workshop on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March.

## **Theme 1 Introduction: Marvellous Machines**

We will carry on the Robots topic for the first 3 weeks looking at evaluating their robots, writing a story for them and a characters description. We will then look at magnets. For the rest of the half term we will look at the Industrial revolution. We will look at the invention of the steam engine and how it changed people's lives.

## **English: Creative Writing**

The children will be finishing the character descriptions of their robots and will write an adventure story for them. When moving into the Industrial revolution topic we will be looking at writing a newspaper article as though they were there at the time of the invention of the steam engine.

- By looking at stories and where they are set, the problem to be overcome and the endings
- Read newspaper articles with them and look at their layout and style

## **Mathematics within the Theme**

We will focus on shapes, particularly circles, cylinders, squares, rectangles, cubes and cuboids. We will also focus on measuring length and reading a scale accurately as well as look at Venn diagrams to sort objects.





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

- Help them measure things around the home making sure they start at 0. Ask different 'measuring' questions such as 'How long do you think this item is?' and 'How many mm in a cm?'
- See if they can spot the shapes of focus around the house and outside as well as in different orientations.

## **Science**

We will learn about forces and magnets and magnetic materials. We will learn that magnets have two poles; devise and investigate our own questions about magnets; and use related words like 'repel' and 'attract'.

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

- Looking for materials that are magnetic
- Using the internet and/or public library to research the use of magnets.

## **Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)**

This term we will continue to focus on friendship and conflict resolution. We will look at building friendships and what it means to be a friend. Then we will look at if they have conflict different resolutions that they can try.

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

- Discussing the importance of being a good friend.
- Thinking about why we might have conflicts and how we can solve them.

## **Geography/History**

We will look at the industrial revolution and how it changed Britain, the lives of people, housing and the manufacturing of products. We will also investigate when the industrial revolution took place and why. We will look at the steam engine and hopefully visit Kelham Island to have a look at a real one in action.

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

- Using the internet and/or public library to research when the revolution happened and what it was.
- Research the steam engine and if anyone has a model of one bring it in.
- Talk to children about how people used to live before the industrial revolution.

## **Art & Design Technology**

We will be doing pencil drawings of a steam engine. So we will need to look at the skills of, sketching and shading and trying to get in lots of detail.

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

- Practise sketching objects at home and looking at them in detail

## **PE**

P.E. is on Tuesday afternoon each week. Sessions are led by specialist coaches. This term they will cover cricket and athletics, 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, swimming lessons.
- By watching sport live or on the television or via clips on the internet.

## **Music: 'Dragon Scales'**

The children will learn about the pentatonic (5 note) scale. They will work out the notes in a melody by ear then learn to play them using the glockenspiels. They will also accompany songs using notes from the pentatonic scale and create their own music for the 'Chinese Dragon Song'.

