



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

*Sharing our learning*

## Academic Year 2017-2018

- **Year:** 4
- **Term:** 1

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mr A Broadhead
- Mrs L Mappin
- Mrs C Raynes
- Miss J Pendlebury

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first curriculum overview of our new school year. Its purpose is to let you know what your children will be learning during the first term. We will also take the opportunity to suggest some ways in which you can support your child at home.

New learning can be especially fragile and so it is very important that all our 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 our children's new learning, so that it can become embedded. Our expectations regarding homework are therefore also shared in the overview.

It is very important that all homework is attempted at home by your child on his/her own. If your child does not understand how to do his/her homework, please do **not** worry. In one way the homework has done its job.

All we want you to do is reassure your children and encourage them only to do as much as they can manage - and then stop if they are unsure and really cannot manage any more. Please do not worry, and certainly do not do the homework for your child. There is absolutely no point. We WILL understand and follow-up any issue(s) with your child, and possibly with you, in order to identify and fill gaps in knowledge and understanding. Please notify your child's teacher (in person, via email or by adding a note to the homework) to say that the task was attempted and where you believe the issues are. We will also reassure and encourage your child.

Methods and ways of teaching and learning change constantly 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 arrange workshops or even provide one-to-one support if parents/carers would like this. Please speak to us in confidence. 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 very much welcomed and appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

## Homework

Children will be set homework every week on Thursday and this will be due back by the following Wednesday. 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.



## 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

### 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 can be 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)
- ✓ choosing another book by the same author, to read with your child
- ✓ encouraging your child to read a wider range of more challenging books, to widen their experience
- ✓ discussing their personal targets for reading (as shared on their record sheet from parent's meeting)

## Mathematics

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

## Art and Design or Design Technology

We will be learning about the Romans as great architects. The children will be learning to design a Roman road, considering and applying construction skills. They will also be evaluating and adapting their techniques as part of continuous cycle of learning.

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

- discussing how a variety of objects could be made.
- encouraging your child to attempt to design and/or make models

## Science

This term our Science will be focused on Animals including humans. We will be:

- describing the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans
- identifying the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions
- constructing and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey

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

- ✓ talking about what producers, predators and prey, giving examples
- ✓ discussing ways the body works
- ✓ carrying out research about different animals' digestive systems and teeth



## History

Our focus will be on Romans linking to our visit. We will be learning about the Romans as great conquerors and what they did for Britain. The children will be learning to about the invasions, Roman gods and goddesses and Roman society.

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

- ✓ researching invaders to Britain in general, and the Romans specifically
- ✓ discussing the different ways that we find out about the past and how we can use historical evidence

## Computing

In the 'Zoologists' unit we aim to enable the children to:

- sort and classify a group of items by answering questions
- collect data using tally charts
- use simple charting software to produce pictograms and other basic charts
- take, edit and enhance photographs
- record information on a digital map

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

- ✓ creating tally charts for various things at home, e.g. colour of cars going past your house in half an hour

## Music

Music is led by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher. In the 'Play It Again' unit, children will be:

- exploring rhythmic patterns
- recognising repeated rhythmic patterns
- performing a repeated pattern to a steady pulse
- performing with an awareness of different parts
- inventing lyrics to fit a set rhythm pattern
- making improvements to their work

## 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 be recapping all the French we have done so far including days of the week and months of the year as well as colours. We will also be learning the names of parts of the face and other body parts along with words to describe some of these.

### **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 you say different vocabulary
- ✓ asking your child to teach you how to say parts of the body
- ✓ singing 'head, shoulders, knees and toes' in French

## PSHCE

We will be learning about the caring school, feelings, friends and family, and also appreciating differences. The children will be learning to develop, consider and apply inter-person skills to help teamwork. They will also be evaluating and adapting their techniques as part of continuous cycle of learning.

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

- ✓ discussing how friendships change and develop as you grow up.
- ✓ encouraging your child to attempt to talk to other children in the school other than their friends.