



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



Academic Year 2017-2018

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

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mr A Broadhead
- Miss R D'Roza
- Mrs L Mappin

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

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 (which will be differentiated to the correct level for your child)
- 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 and 'Hub-Buddies' if they need it. All are welcome!

RE

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 functions
- constructing and interpreting different food chains, identifying producers, prey and predators

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

- ✓ talking about what producers, predators and prey, giving examples
- ✓ investigating and discussing the ways the body works
- ✓ researching 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 learn about the invasions, Roman gods and goddesses and 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 and using tally charts
- use simple charting software to produce pictograms and other basic charts
- take, edit and enhance photographs and 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

In the 'Play It Again' unit, children will:

- explore rhythmic patterns
- learn to recognise repeated and rhythmic patterns
- perform a repeated pattern to a steady pulse with an awareness of different parts
- invent lyrics to fit a set rhythm pattern and review work in order to make improvements

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

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

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

