



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



Academic Year 2016-2017

- **Year:** 4
- **Term:** 2

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mr A Broadhead
- Mrs C Raynes
- Miss A May
- Miss J Pendlebury

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

Homework will be given on Tuesdays and be expected back the following Tuesday and will consist of:

- www.mymaths.co.uk differentiated for your child
- www.activelearnprimary.co.uk (new website for 'Bug Club') for reading homework
- spellings in readiness for a weekly spelling quiz
- cross-curricular theme-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.

RE

Information about the RE curriculum for Term 2 is included in the 'Come and See' letter sent out last term.

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.

Guided Reading

All children will have daily reading activities to boost their levels of confidence and enjoyment as well as their comprehension skills.

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

- ✓ reading your child's reading books with them each day as well as enjoying all sorts of other books
- ✓ encouraging your child to read more challenging texts/different genres to widen their experience

Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

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

- multiplication and division questions
- word problem calculations
- tables and line graph
- fractions

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

- ✓ multiplying and dividing three and two digit numbers by one digit number
- ✓ looking at tables and line graph, discussing what they represent
- ✓ looking at fractions when you are like working out what a 1/3 off a price would be
- ✓ continuing to talk about numbers and what each digit means in numbers up to 100,000

Theme 2: 'Whole New World'

Our main curriculum topic this term will be focussed on Romans linking to our visit. All of our art, geography, D.T. and science will be covered through this topic.

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
- ✓ 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' and basic first aid.



English: Creative Writing within the Theme

We will focus on setting description, poetry and non-chronological reports during this theme. We will read stories, non-chronological reports and create our own character descriptions.

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

- ✓ reading and writing story settings
- ✓ describing creatures, including lots of adventurous adjectives and similes
- ✓ looking at how non-chronological reports are presented and organised
- ✓ reading non-chronological reports

Mathematics within the Theme

We will focus on 2D shape, measurement (length in particular distances) and time.

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

- ✓ revising the names and properties of 2D shapes
- ✓ measure the distance from a place to a given point using a variety of equipment, e.g. tape measure
- ✓ timing how long the Roman Empire lasted



Geography within the Theme

We will be learning about historical map and how the Romans used them to identify places in their empire.

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

- ✓ *looking at various maps comparing now to Roman times*

Science within the Theme

This term our focus is sound. We will:

- look at how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating
- learn that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear
- investigate the patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object used to make it
- investigate whether there is a link between a sound's volume and the strength of vibrations
- explore whether sounds get fainter further you are from the sound source

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

- ✓ *talking about what sounds are and how they are made*
- ✓ *discussing ways the ear works*
- ✓ *researching and describing the sounds made by different animals in the house (pets) and outside*

Music

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)*

Computing

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

- create wiki pages
- develop editing skills
- use web based software.

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

- ✓ *using Wikipedia to show how cowriters work*

PE

This term the children will focus on developing the important core multi-skills that underpin all sporting activity, as well as our 'REAL PE' challenges.

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

- ✓ *asking them about their lessons and what they have learned and practising the skills learned in school*
- ✓ *homework from these sessions may be set to help develop skills further*

French

We will continue to learn the names of parts of the face and other body parts, along with some descriptions for these. We will also start to learn how to say the names of some zoo animals in French. We will learn some key words from the nativity story during Advent.

You can help at home by:

- ✓ *exploring the website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/french/>*
- ✓ *finding out the name of your favourite animals in French*
- ✓ *finding out a French Christmas tradition*