



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



Academic Year 2016-2017

- **Year:** 6
- **Term:** 1

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mr I Smith
- Mrs S Hawley
- Miss J Pendlebury
- Miss R D'Roza

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first curriculum overview of our new school year. The purpose of the overview is to let you know what your children will be learning during Term 1 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 along 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 will be given homework on a Friday and this will be expected back in by the following Thursday. The homework will be:

- 'MyMaths' online maths homework
- 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 Terms 1 and 2 is included in the 'Come and See' letter sent out with this overview.

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 for a few minutes every day as well as enjoying all sorts of other books and reading materials together.*
- ✓ *encouraging your child to read more challenging texts/different genres to what they are used to in order to widen their reading experience.*

Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

We will focus on:

- Place value including; reading and writing, ordering and comparisons of number within the 10,000,000 in words and numerals.
- Methods for addition and subtraction
- Methods for multiplication and division
- Problems solving using the bar model and the four operational methods

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

- ✓ *Practicing their times tables*
- ✓ *Looking at large numbers and asking your child to identify what the number is*
- ✓ *looking at word problems and identifying what the vocabulary means, e.g. increase, sum and total all mean addition*

Theme 1: 'A Whole New World'

The children will be undertaking work this term from a Michael Morpurgo book called Kensuke's kingdom, they will be investigating and studying mountains from around the world and their environment.

The children will appreciate what it may be like to be ship wrecked on a deserted island through the novel Kensuke's Kingdom. They will learn more about the different countries and continents around the world which are visited in the book.

In the mountains topic we will be looking at the differences between mountains and the area that they live in. We will research different mountains of the world and what it may be like to live near these geological structures. The children will discover information relating to the first ascent of Everest and what this would have been like for the climbers involved.



English: Creative Writing within the Theme

We will focus on setting description, diary writing, letter writing and description during this theme. We will be reading stories, non-chronological reports and creating 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:

- 3D shape
- measurement (weight and length)
- time

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

- ✓ *revising the names and properties of 2D and 3D shapes*
- ✓ *measure the distance from an object to a given point using a variety of equipment, e.g. tape measure*
- ✓ *timing how long it takes for an ice cube to melt*

Geography within the Theme

We will be learning about mountains and how they form. We will be looking at the different features of mountains and will be undertaking a visit to Mam Tor in Derbyshire to experience what it is like to 'get up high' in the countryside.

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

- ✓ *looking at various different mountains around the world*
- ✓ *Investigating local mountains and high places*

Science within the Theme

Living Things and their habitats

During this topic we will be exploring classification, which is how living things are sorted into groups such as mammals or birds. We will learn about the standard system of organisation developed by Carl Linnaeus and find out about him and the scientific names of living things. We will be using Venn and Carole diagrams and finally producing a field guide showing our knowledge about the classification of animals and plants in the school area.

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

- ✓ *practising sorting different objects around the home and creating Venn and Carole diagrams*
- ✓ *learning about the animals and plants which live in your garden and local area including looking at and using a field guide*
- ✓ *finding out about Carl Linnaeus*
- ✓ *practising completing observational drawings of plants and animals*

If you have any field guides at home which your children would like to share we would be very grateful to look at different examples of these.

Music

Music is led by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher. In our "Roundabout" unit the children will:

- explore rounds
- listen to melodies and discussing the children's impressions of the piece
- perform chords and a drone to accompany a piece
- perform songs in two and four part rounds
- explore the harmony in different pieces of music
- perform a four part round with tuned and untuned accompaniments



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*

French

This term we will be continuing to recap all the French we have done so far including parts of the body and zoo animals. We will also be learning about the family and how to talk about different family members as well as pets.

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

- *asking your child to teach you how to say the different parts of the body*
- *trying to guess which animal your child is saying in French*
- *finding out how to say your family name (e.g. Mum) in French*
- *exploring the website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/french/> listening to how you say different vocabulary*