



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

*Sharing our Learning*

## Academic Year 2016-2017

- **Year:** 3
- **Term:** 2

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mrs M Barrett
- Mr S Hawley
- Miss D'Roza
- Miss J Pendlebury

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is our second curriculum overview of the school year. Its purpose is to let you know what your children will be learning in the weeks leading up to the Christmas holiday. As always we will also take the opportunity to suggest some ways in which you can support children at home.

Homework is important and so it should be attempted by children on their own. Parents/carers should not worry if their children do not understand how to complete their homework. Homework is set to see what children can and cannot do on their own.

If this is the case, we ask parents/carers to reassure their children and encourage them to do as much as they can honestly manage - and then stop. We do not want to cause stress to the children nor do we want anyone else doing homework for them, as there is no point.

We WILL understand and follow-up any issue(s) with your child, and possibly with parents/carers, so that issues are understood and dealt with. We ask parents/carers to notify us (in person, via email or by adding a note to the homework) explaining that a task was attempted and identifying where the issues might be. We will also seek to reassure and encourage the children so that they do not feel worried or become anxious.

Methods and ways of teaching and learning change constantly which is why we are **always** happy to explain them to parents/carers so that they know how to help their children at home. Sometimes it can be more confusing for a child when well-meaning parents/carers try to help them based on what they remember learning at school - as this could be quite different to how children are taught now.

We are **always** happy to arrange workshops or even provide one-to-one support if parents/carers would like this – just speak to one of 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 let us know. All offers are welcomed and appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

## Homework

Children will be set homework every week on Monday and this will be due back by the following Monday. 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 will be sent out on a Monday for a quiz the following Monday
- various home challenges linked to our topics this half term

## 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

### **Book Study**

All children have daily reading activities to boost their levels of confidence and enjoyment as well as their comprehension skills, as this is real important part of reading and one that is 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

We will focus on the following this term:

- solving addition and subtraction word problems
- Multiplication
- Division

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

- ✓ practising the times tables regularly for vital reinforcement
- ✓ logging on to 'times table rockstars'
- ✓ asking your child questions like:

*"Thomas has 1345 stickers but Michael 347 more. How many does Michael have?"*

## Art and Design or Design Technology

We will be learning about the Vikings as great craft makers and designers. The children will be learning to design a Viking longboat. They will be deciding how it is to be decorated in order to scare off other invaders.

#### **You can help at home by:**

- ✓ looking at the designs of Viking longships and investigating how they were decorated
- ✓ creating a design of the head of the ship to be incorporated into the finished design

## Science

### *Rocks and Soils*

During the topic Rocks and Soils we will be exploring rocks and finding out how different types of rock are formed, both natural and man-made. We will discover the properties of different rocks and discuss their uses. We will learn about how soil is made and what it's made from as well as how fossils are made.

#### **You can help at home by:**

- ✓ looking out for rocks in and around the home and out and about and talking about how they are used
- ✓ doing research to find out about different palaeontologists and the fossils they discovered
- ✓ exploring the website <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/> in particular looking at the Dino Discovery section: <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/dino-directory/index.html>
- ✓ asking your child to explain how rocks, soil and fossils are made to share their learning with you



## History or Geography

We will be learning about the Vikings and Anglo Saxons as settlers. The children will be learning about why these groups chose to settle where they did and the characteristics of these places. We will look at place names and what we can tell about a place from its name. We will also be looking at how places link together.

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

- ✓ gathering together place names from around where you live and researching the origin of the name
- ✓ exploring the city centre, taking note of the different street names and thinking carefully about why are the streets might have been given these names

## Computing

This term, we will be exploring programming.

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

- ✓ using language to describe directions such as forward, backward, turn left and turn right
- ✓ looking at free applications (apps) to make objects move e.g. 'Scratch'

## Music

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury, our music teacher. During our 'Animal Magic' unit the children will:

- discuss how different animals are described
- learn the 'Tortoise Song' and adding movements
- learn the melody on the glockenspiels
- watch and learn traditional Indian dance movements for different animals
- invent music to represent different animal movements

## 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 continue to learn the basics of French this term, learning how to read and say basic vocabulary and short conversations. We will be learning how to say numbers 0-10 in French as well as basis greetings including asking 'how are you?' and replying. We will also learn colours and foods.

### **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 numbers 0-10 in French and practising using them during everyday conversation

## PSHCE

We will be focussing on 'growing' this term. We will be learning about how we can become more independent in our learning and how we can tackle problems for ourselves. We will be looking at how we can take responsibility and what it means.

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

- ✓ giving a responsibility at home
- ✓ Supporting your child to solve a problem on their own.