



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

*Sharing our learning*



## Academic Year 2016-2017

- **Year:** FS2
- **Term:** 3

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mrs H Darken
- Mrs A Prentice
- Miss J Bradshaw
- Miss R D'Roza
- Miss J Pendlebury

Dear Parents and Carers,  
Happy New Year to you all!

This is the third curriculum overview of our school year. Its purpose is to keep you up-to-date with what your children will be learning in school and suggest some ways in which you can offer support at home.

If you have any questions or if you require support with anything please do not hesitate to contact us. We would also really like to hear from you if you can support us in any way.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

## RE

Information about our Term 3 RE curriculum is in the 'Come and See' letter accompanying this overview.

## Theme 2 : 'Spring into Action!'

This term's theme is called "Spring in to Action". In the first weeks we will be thinking about how to safely use our new outdoor area. Then we will move on to learning about robots, reading books, creating models and learning songs and dances.

We will also learn about the festival of Chinese New Year and consider some of the traditions and celebrations.

## EYFS Prime Areas

### Communication & Language, Physical Development & Personal, Social & Emotional Development

The children will continue to develop learning within the Prime Areas. The children are now confident to use the classroom resources and are showing good independence around the school.

We will continue to support the children as they develop friendships in class and throughout the whole school. Our buddies in Y4 add a positive element to the children's relationships and we will plan more events to spend time together.

Communicating effectively with each other remains a strong focus. The children will be encouraged to listen carefully to each other and respond appropriately. Children work with a 'Talk Partner' to help them to develop confidence to do this.



Within our learning will be learning all about robots during this term. As a class we will learn to retell the story of the 'Robot and the bluebird'. We will think about the feelings of the characters in the story.

We will be using instructional language to move and program a robot. We will talk about and describe different robots around the house and in other fictional stories.

We will be thinking about gross motor control to develop robot dances learning how to move quickly and slowly and within music we will develop these skills further.

We will continue to use the outdoor area to support children in developing their skills and ideas through the use of imaginative play, games, problem solving and physical activities.

As part of developing this learning we will learn to retell the story 'Stone Soup'. A theme within the story addresses teamwork and reciprocity which we will encourage and talk about with the class.

Many of the children prefer to learn outside so warm clothes and wellington boots are essential. Please be aware that the mud kitchen can be quite messy and even though the children will be given aprons washable coats are an advantage.

Their physical activities will be supplemented by the weekly P.E. sessions. Please make sure that **ALL** PE kit and school uniform is **labelled clearly**. It makes it much easier to reunite uniform with its correct owner.

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

- ✓ asking 'open-ended' questions (questions where there are many possible answers), for example:
  - I wonder what would happen if.....?
  - How do you think .....?
- ✓ continuing to encourage children to be independent when getting dressed/undressed
- ✓ helping children to learn to put on and do up their own coats
- ✓ talking about past experiences with the children encouraging them to use past, present and future tense within their speech
- ✓ talking to them about stories, books and other things and support them in their thinking about these things encouraging them to ask their own questions and ask for explanations
- ✓ playing games in your garden or in the park, particularly running, chasing and ball skills

## EYFS Specific Areas

### Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the world, Expressive arts and design

We will continue to develop literacy skills using the 'Read Write Inc.' programme. Children will begin to take home books to support their reading and will be read with frequently in school.

The children love books and we will use a selection of both books and IT resources for shared reading sessions. These will include non-fiction books, poetry, stories and information and stories downloaded from the computer. The book corner will include books about the current topic as well as favourite picture books. Children will be encouraged to write for a variety of purposes—using their phonic knowledge to sound out words and we will encourage the children to think about what they might want to write ahead of the task.

To start off the year we will be exploring the book 'Stone Soup' we will think about working together and sharing.

We will also consider the change in season and talk about the characteristics of winter and how this changes the way we behave and what we wear.

As part of the theme we will be thinking all about robots. We will think about different robots in stories, books and films. We will design and build our own robots out of different materials giving them names and describing their different uses.



Within this theme we will explore non-fiction texts related to the topic. Looking at the features of nonfiction texts and using phonic knowledge to read labels and captions.

Children will be encouraged to write in a variety of ways – writing their name on their own work, using their phonic knowledge to write labels, captions etc. We will also encourage children to write for different purposes in their play –MOT certificates, building plans, safety signs. Children will be required to move towards writing in sentences using finger spaces and full stops in their writing.

In mathematics we will continue to recognise and use numbers 1-10 but this term there will be greater focus on knowing and recognising the numbers between 10 and 20. We will be comparing items with differing weight, thinking about whether containers are heavier or lighter.

The children will have opportunities to revisit and apply their knowledge of 2D shapes and we will continue to learn the names and properties of 3D shapes.

We will start using the language of time, considering different events during the day and knowing how these events relate to different times. We will learn about and use money in practical ways becoming more familiar with these ideas in relation to real life.

Number activities will include counting orally forwards and backwards from a given number, recognising and writing numerals, accurately counting how many in a 'set' and finding 'one more' or 'one less' We will also revisit positional language (backwards, forwards, above, below etc.)

We will think about different materials and their properties, we will talk about the texture and appearance of different materials when designing and making our own robots.

We will also talk about different power sources and discuss simply renewable sources of power. We will consider how many toys are powered. We will also talk about the importance of safety around electricity.

Through the topic 'Spring in to Action' the children will be given chance to explore different technology and find out new information and facts. .

Across their learning children will be encouraged to use non-fiction books and the internet. We will be talking about how to use the internet safely and learning how to log on to the class computers and the school reading programme 'Bug Club'. We will discuss the importance of keeping internet passwords safe and who to talk to if they have a problem when using the computer.

We will also think about simple programming using the roamers to plan, program and then debug a very simple program.

The children are still developing their drawing, painting skills and we will investigate a variety of skills and techniques. The children also love creating structures with blocks and making models. We will apply these skills when we make moving robots and investigate how materials can be joined together.

The topic should give children ample opportunity to continue to develop their imaginative skills through music making, singing, role play and painting and model making. It is through many of these activities that we will be encouraging children's thinking/planning skills so they become more successful in their learning.

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

- ✓ *helping them with letter sounds and words at home – saying, reading and writing*
- ✓ *reading stories and looking at non-fiction books*
- ✓ *writing lists and cards*
- ✓ *helping children use technology safely at home*
- ✓ *talking to children about all the different technology around the house that make jobs easier to do*
- ✓ *considering how things are made and the different processes that a product has been through*
- ✓ *discussing power sources and the importance of being safe around electricity*



## EYFS: Characteristics of Learning

Throughout the year we will be looking at how children develop certain 'characteristics' such as how they engage in their learning, find out, explore and 'have a go'. If they are motivated to learn by being involved, concentrating, keep trying and enjoying achieving what they set out to do.

We also consider whether they are able to develop their own ideas, make links in their learning and the ways they choose to do things, whether they plan, review or change their strategy when approaching a task.

These are all attitudes to learning that children need to become successful learners. Hopefully we will lay the foundations for these young children so they grow their skills and achieve both personally and academically.

We will be focussing on reciprocity, team work, through the book 'Stone Soup'. We will consider resilience as we retell the story and attempt to write our own recipes.

When we design and make our own robots we will use critical analysis to investigate excellent example of robot design, we will then 'plan, review and do'. We will use our resourcefulness to consider how we can join and create the robot and then we will reflect on our design.

## Music

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher. This term we will be learning a variety of songs about Chinese New Year, robots and machines. Children will also get the opportunity to use some of the instruments to accompany these songs. We will film our performance and try to share these on Tapestry.

## PE

### REAL PE

We will explore dynamic balance activities.

We will focus on walking forwards paying attention to legs being at a 90 degree angle. We pay attention to walking backwards safely. Then we will balance on a line with both feet facing forward, lift heels and balance.

We will also use our cognitive skills to understand and follow rules.

### Outdoor games

Our focus on team games/activities continues: running, hopping etc. and using some small equipment.

**Please, please, please name ALL school uniform and PE kit. We can then try to ensure you're your children each have their correct clothes.**

## Assessment

All assessments throughout Foundation Stage 2 will be done through observational assessment. We will collect photos, written observations as part of our evidence. Please continue to share any 'wow' moments. This can include joining in with a swimming/dance lesson for the first time, dressing independently for the first time etc. Please feel free to add your own 'Wow' moments to the '**Tapestry Online**' journal.