



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning



Academic Year 2014-2015

- **Year:** 6
- **Term:** 2

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mr D Evans
- Mrs L Miller
- Miss C Kiernan
- Miss J Pendlebury

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the second curriculum overview of the year and takes us all the way up to Christmas. The purpose of the overview is to let you know what the children will be learning this term and set out some of the ways in which you can support them at home.

It is important that children receive the right kind of support in school and at home so that they can really understand and use all the new things that they learn in school every day. This is why we set homework tasks. That gentle, but constant reinforcement is very important. Developing good homework routines/habits in primary school is also key for future success, which is why teachers' expectations are shared in this overview along with suggestions for supporting your child/ren at home.

It is very important that all homework is at least attempted. If your child does not understand something, do not worry, the homework has done its job. It has revealed a gap that we can then work to close. The quicker we close gaps the better, so just send a note in or email or have a word with the teacher and we will act. No child will ever get into trouble if s/he has honestly done their best but does not understand. It is important that children always feel supported and encouraged especially when they are challenged by something they are learning.

We know that teaching and learning methods change over the years and so are **always** happy to explain them if you have a question or are not sure about something. Just let us know. We are also happy to arrange workshops or even support you on a one-to-one basis if you would find this more helpful. Please speak to your child's teacher in confidence if you would like some support.

If you can support us because you have a skill, specialist knowledge; a real-life experiences to share; or useful contacts, please speak to your child's teacher. 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 homework for maths – children will receive personal login details shortly
- 'Bug Club' for reading homework
- spellings
- cross-curricular theme-related homework at various other times

There is a daily Homework Club at lunchtime from 12.30pm in the Year 6 classroom which is run by Miss Hardman supported by some of the older children. At the club pupils can ask for support from her or her team of helpers. Pupils attending the club also have access to the library, computers and other technology as well as resources not necessarily available at home. Every child is welcome to attend.

RE

Please see the attached 'Come and See' letter for more information about the RE themes this term.

Year 6 (Term 2)



English: Basic Skills – Reading, Phonics, Spelling and Handwriting

Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar & Handwriting

All children will benefit from having regular handwriting and spelling practise and regular grammar and punctuation sessions focused on meeting their *individual* needs.

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

- supporting them to learn their weekly spellings
- talking about their targets for writing (please refer to the interim reports)

Book Study

This term the children will be undertaking a book study. This involves reading a book of high quality and interest. The children will read together in groups then undertake comprehension style activities on the text which they have read. In Year 6 the children will continue to study Louis Sachar's "Holes".

In addition to this, we will be looking at lots of extracts from narrative and non-narrative texts and short-stories, and exploring these to deepen understanding and develop 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 other books) together
- encouraging your child to read a wider range of more challenging books in order to widen their experience

Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

This term we will be focusing on preparing the children mathematically for transition to secondary education as we focus on:

- mental and written methods of calculation, particularly division
- problem-solving and applying skills in different contexts
- working on becoming fluent with single-digit addition and subtraction facts and multiplication and division facts (times tables)

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

- asking them to calculate simple problems around the home e.g. "I have £5 and I need to buy items costing £2.45, £1.24 and £0.29, can you calculate how much change I will have left from the £5?"
- **practising multiplication tables each night – this is extremely important!**

Theme: The Way We Were

Our wider curriculum focus this term will be developed through various themes from the class novel 'Holes'. This will enable us to explore the whole-school theme and encourage deep cross-curricular learning, while also focusing on the literacy and comprehension skills that are so important to get right this year.

In addition to this, there will be a whole school focus on the Christmas story, work on Remembrance during Armistice Week and a Be Safe – Be Happy Week at the beginning of term.

Be Safe - Be Happy Week

When we return from the break it will be 'Be Safe – Be happy Week'; our third special curriculum week of the school year. Across school the children will explore a range of different issues including: bullying, fire safety, road safety, e-safety, stranger danger, basic first aid, 'Bikeability' and safeguarding.



Remembrance Service

In the run up to our Remembrance Service on Wednesday 11th November, the children will be having a lesson about the importance of Remembrance Day and what it really means. Please join us of the Remembrance Service which will be led by Y6. It starts at 10.30am on 11th November at Our Lady of Lourdes.

English: Creative Writing within the Theme

During this theme the children will be writing in depth about the Christmas story. We will be really exploring this through role-play, different versions, research and discussion around the characters and the settings and context of the events. We are hoping to generate some really powerful writing and incorporate some examples into our Key Stage 2 Carol Service.



If you have any books about the Nativity at home, particularly ones with good illustrations which could generate ideas and discussion, we would be very grateful if they could be shared at school.

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

- *talking about the writing they have been doing at school and really valuing and praising any writing that children do at home*
- *generating lots of descriptive language, particularly focussing on the senses and feelings*

Science within the Theme

We will continue to learn about living things and their habitats. Throughout the year, children will also be taught to use particular scientific methods, processes and skills such as planning scientific enquiries, taking measurements and making observations, and reporting findings and conclusions.

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

- *finding out more about how animals and plants are adapted to different environments*

History within the Theme

We will be learning a bit about the origins of Remembrance Day, and different conflicts throughout history.

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

- *watching or reading about Remembrance events during November together*
- *discussing the importance of remembering significant events in history, good and bad, and celebrating people who have made a difference in the world.*

Music

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher and in Term 1 your child will be exploring singing by:-

- ✓ understanding harmony
- ✓ appreciating a range of different music styles
- ✓ performing songs in different styles

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

- *listening to music and discussing the lyrics; in order to consider whether they reflect the time and place where they were composed; a mood, attitude or whether they tell a story or are indeed memorable*
- *encouraging children to make up their own songs including lyrics, perhaps in the style of songs they already know*

Computing

Your child will be creating a presentation to 'pitch' their finished app designs, and developing their 'blogging' skills this term.

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

- *looking at and responding to their class blog page.*

PE

This term the children will be developing fundamental skills and attitudes through 'Real PE', and continuing to focus on athletics and 'Ultimate Frisbee'.

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

- *asking them about their lessons and what they have learned*
- *practising the skills learned in school*